Trade and Industry

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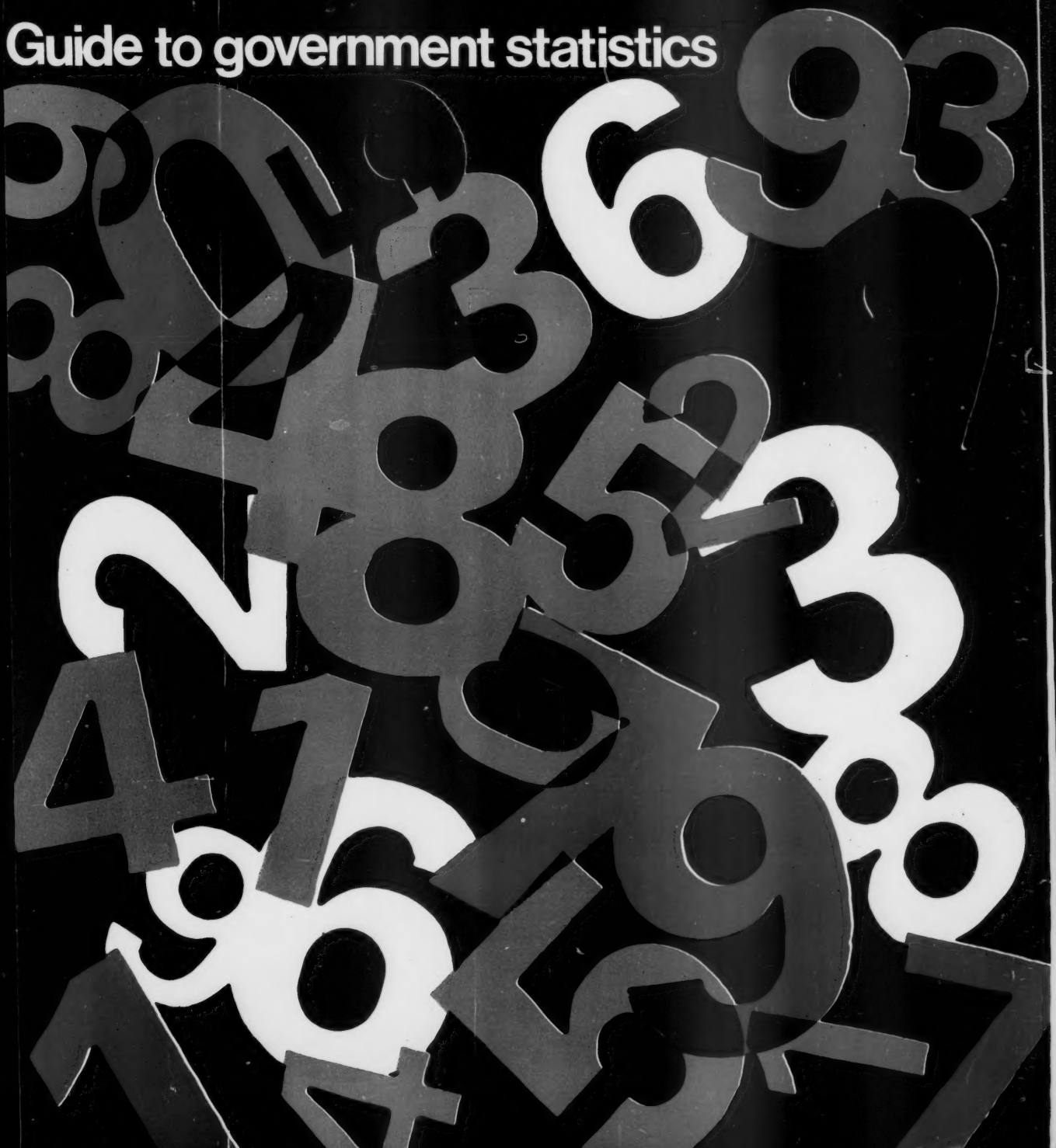
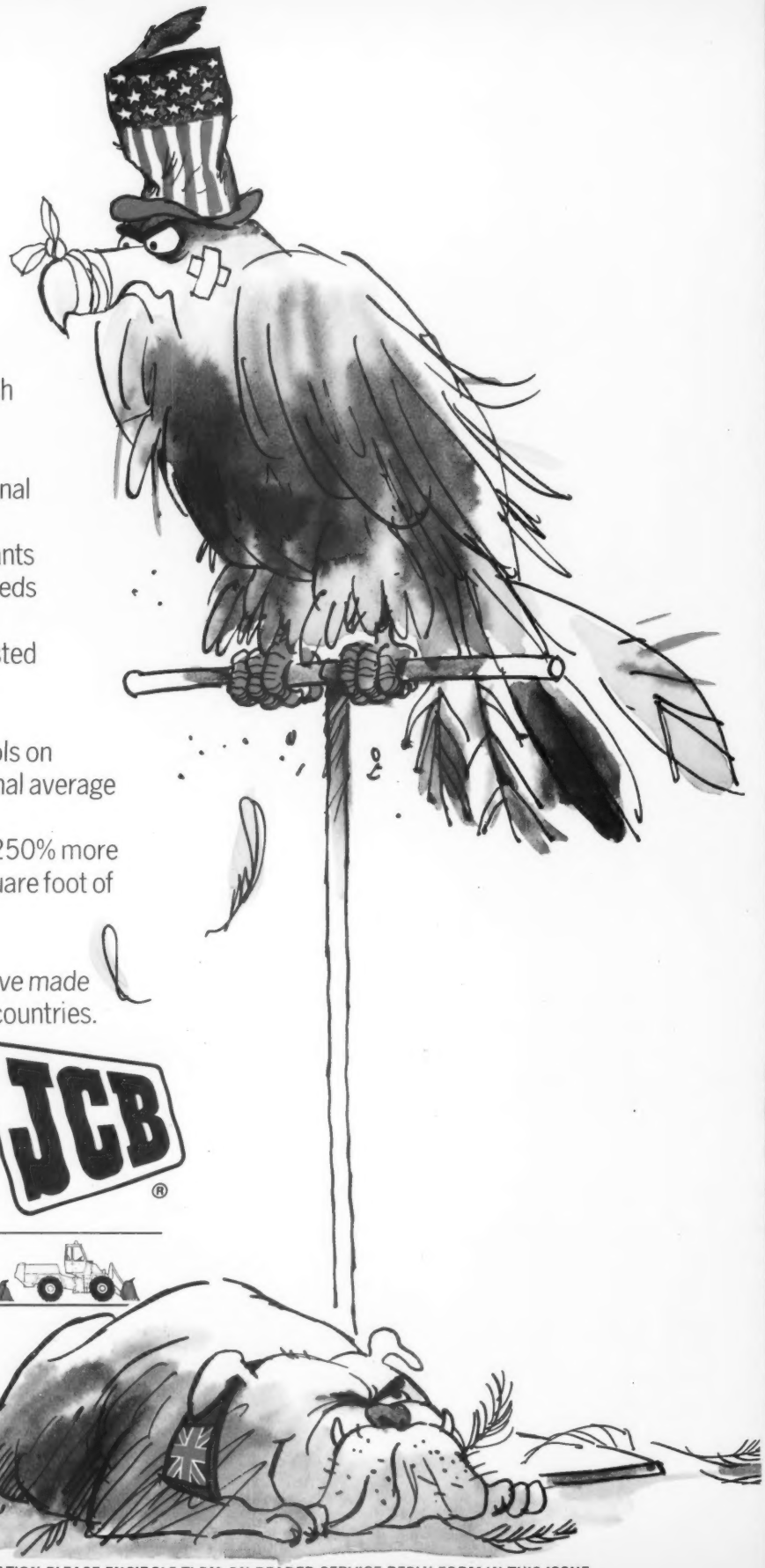
Guide to government statistics





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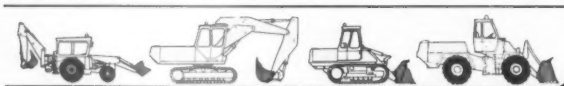

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Trade and Industry

15 July 1977

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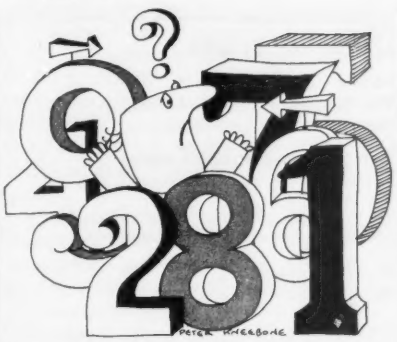

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This week

Industrial strategy reviewed 50
Discounts to retailers to be studied 50
Modest profits on hearing aids 50
Ancillary industries' problems aired 50
Consultations opened on High Pennines tourism 51
Judith Hart visits India and Africa 51
Third world rural development 51
Dell goes to Copenhagen 51
ECSC loan to NCB 51

Home news

Recommended retail prices examined 52
Effect of abandoning RRP 52
Final report on the press 52
Industrial relations in provincial press 53
Policy for considering dispensations from insurance regulations 53
Training incentive for small employers 54
Small firms subsidy for extra jobs 54
Inflation accounting 54
Wood and bark import controls changed 54
Change in baggage rules for USA/UK scheduled flights 55
Official appointments 55
Patents endorsed 'licences of right' 55
Insurance Companies Act 1974: authorisations and revocations 55
Government sales 55
Register of Restrictive Trading Agreements (Restrictive Trade Practices Act 1976) 56
New publications 57

New products 58

Technology news

Career opportunities in engineering – new film 59
Research on offshore platforms 59
Ship automation 59
Nickel cadmium batteries 59
Coal technology exchange 59
Testing for microbiological contamination 60
Solar energy research 60
Travelling laboratories for remote territories 60
More radiological protection in Leeds 60
Six-minute perm 60

Parliament 61

European community news

Broad measure of agreement on social fund 64
EIB loan for Scotland . . . 64
. . . and finance for project in Togo 64
Second reading on European elections bill 64
Importance of Channel tunnel recognised 64
EEC-Spain agreement extended to UK, Denmark and Ireland 65
Four council meetings planned for July 65
New legislation 66
New EEC documents 66
Eliminating technical barriers to trade within the EEC 67
Annual EEC tariff quotas renewed from 1 July 70

Guide to government statistics 71

Overseas trade news

Dell calls for action to reduce economic tension 75
Anti-dumping duty on Japanese steel sections 75
Australian consumer affairs minister in London 75
New customs import entry form 75
Top-rank UK team in Bilbao 76
Study tour of USSR chemical industry 76
Price not all-important in exports – Wilks 76
More colleges offer overseas trade course 76
BOTB to back over 110 events in three months 76
British buses in Singapore 77
Hints to business men booklets 77
Iran: introductory guide available 77
Yugoslav visitor 77
THE edition of French electrical installations standard 77
Market report: northern France
So near, yet so far 78

Exhibitions

British technology leads the world at Laser '77 80
Guarded optimism at Paris Interclima 80
Higher level of inquiries at Chicago carpet fair 81
British cranes succeed at Intermat 81

Export services 82

Country data

Australia 84, Bahrain 84, Brazil 84, Canada 85, Cayman Islands 85, Chile 85, Colombia 85, Finland 86, Gabon 86, Indonesia 86, Republic of Ireland 86, Israel 86, Malta 86, Oman 86, South Africa 86, Spain 86, United States 87, Uruguay 87

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators 88
Regional selective assistance: offers of £10,000 or more 89
Vehicle production: provisional estimates for June 90
Retailers' stocks in May 91
Wholesale price indices 91
Wholesale textile houses: sales and stocks in April 92
Exports of wool textile products 92
Production of man-made fibres in April 92
Production of North Sea crude oil: 'Energy Trends' 93
Business Monitors 93
Registrations of British, community and foreign films 94
Index to statistics 94

Readers' reply service 95

Trade and Industry this week

HOME

Industrial strategy reviewed

Means of increasing Britain's penetration of world markets and the question of industrial investment and productivity were covered by the second industrial strategy conference which took place at Lancaster House on 11 July. Part of the day's proceedings centred on the need to communicate the industrial strategy at individual company level and to those on the shop floor.

Prime Minister James Callaghan attended the conference, together with Denis Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the Secretaries of State for Trade, Industry and Employment. Over 100 delegates were present, representing industrialists, trade unions, economic development committees and the sector working parties set up to help implement the industrial strategy.

Through the sector working parties, industrialists and trade unionists informed the government on the progress of the industrial strategy. Problems in the home market were discussed with specific recommendations put forward for substituting of imports, particularly of textiles and clothing.

Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, told the conference of the imminent launch of a proposed government scheme for assisting product and process development. The new scheme will strengthen and extend existing arrangements for supporting such development in industry.

Discounts to retailers to be studied

Discounts to retailers are to be investigated by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, announced Robert Maclennan, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, in answer to a parliamentary question on Tuesday.

'The government has felt for some time that we need more information about the extent and effects of granting special discounts to some retailers only,' Mr Maclennan said.

The secretary of state (Roy Hattersley) had therefore asked the commission to investigate the effect on public interest of the practice of some retailers obtaining larger discounts or similar benefits than those available to other retailers, where the differences were not wholly attributable to savings in the suppliers' costs.

Modest profits on hearing aids

Prospective customers for hearing aids are advised to consult more than one firm and to look at the sort of after-sales service offered before deciding what to buy. The recommendation was made by the Price Commission in its report on privately prescribed hearing aids.

Announcing publication of the report in parliament on 12 July, Robert Maclennan, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, said that the commission had found an industry with an unusual structure, with a static market and the practice of making most sales at home rather than shops. Profits of both manufacturers and retailers had generally been modest.

The customer usually paid an inclusive fee covering consultation, prescription, purchase and after-sales support. Suppliers' overheads, Mr Maclennan continued, were thus unusually high and led to very considerable disparity between the cost of the hearing aid from the manufacturer, typically about £22, and the £116 which the customer paid on average as the inclusive fee. Since an important element in the purchase of a hearing aid was after-sales support, the commission recommended that prospective buyers should go to more than one firm before making a decision and that they should look particularly at the sort of service offered in the price.

The commission noted that from the point of view of assisting the customer's choice and enabling him to decide whether he was getting value for money, it could be argued that different elements in the inclusive fee should be separated in the bill. This had been considered in the past and rejected, but the commission recommended that the matter be looked at again.

Ancillary industries' problems aired

Les Huckfield, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Industry, met representatives of the Gauge and Toolmakers Association, the National Association of Master Patternmakers, the Federation of Engineering Design Companies and the Association of Patternmakers and Allied Craftsmen on 11 July. The delegation stressed the need for close consultation with the major motor vehicle manufacturers to enable their industries to plan ahead in terms of investment and employment.

Mr Huckfield said that the problems which faced ancillary industries were recognised and he referred to a survey, under the auspices of the Machine Tools Economic Development Committee, of future requirements for toolroom capacity in the UK. Whilst the department would do what it could to assist, the responsibility for consultation must rest primarily with the industries concerned.

He described arrangements which were being developed between the department and British Leyland whereby advance warning is given of British Leyland's proposals for major equipment purchases where there is a prospect of an order going overseas. This enables the department to ensure that before committing itself the company gives appropriate British manufacturers the chance to bid. The department can also follow up cases where there appears to be no British manufacturer capable of meeting key British Leyland requirements to see if it can stimulate the industry to make its coverage more comprehensive in future. The arrangements, which were originally designed to cover machine tools are now being extended to embrace major tooling orders.

Mr Huckfield stressed, 'though it is not practical for ministers in this department to consider every single order, which would in any case not be consistent with our policy of leaving such matters to the commercial judgement of the management, we do want to ensure that British manufacturers in every way get a fair chance'.

On other pages

Home news
The Register of Restrictive Trading Agreements 56

European community news
Eliminating technical barriers to trade within the EEC 67

Guide to government statistics 71

Market report
Northern France 78

Statistics
Regional selective assistance 89
Vehicle production 90
Retailers' stocks in May 91
Wholesale textile houses: sales and stocks 92
Production of man-made fibres 92

Consultations opened on High Pennines tourism

An audience of over 120 community representatives in Durham on 11 July were told of a new government experiment in tourism policy by Michael Meacher, the Department of Trade minister with special responsibility for tourism. The aim is to seek support and partnership in establishing a new growth point for tourism in the area of the High Pennines, from Teesdale to the South Tyne Valley.

Mr Meacher underlined the government's concern to encourage the types of development which were truly in keeping with the area and likely to bring, in the most cost-effective way, the maximum benefits for those living there. He envisaged total public and private investment over three to four years of some £2 to £3 million in interrelated tourism projects, which might produce up to 200 additional jobs in the locality and generate around £2 million a year in extra tourist spending.

About a third of this capital investment could come from funds available to the English Tourist Board under the Development of Tourism Act. But, Mr Meacher emphasised, such a scheme, and the tourist board's contribution, could only proceed if a satisfactory partnership could be worked out. The real test of viability, he said, would be the readiness of the private sector to put up its share of the investment to carry the development through into the future and justify government finance as a pump-priming operation.

Details of the proposed scheme were outlined to the meeting by Sir Mark Henig, chairman of the English Tourist Board. The minister asked interested organisations, public bodies, commercial interests and private individuals to forward their considered opinions to the Northumbria or Cumbria Tourist Board, as appropriate, over the next 10 to 12 weeks.

OVERSEAS

Judith Hart visits India and Africa

Minister for Overseas Development, Judith Hart, left London this week (12 July) for a two-week visit to India and three African countries to take part in talks on aid and development.

The minister was due in Delhi on 13 July where she is to have discussions with the Indian government about the country's economic development needs over the next few years, and to review Britain's assistance to that development.

From there, Mrs Hart is to fly to Maputo in Mozambique, arriving on 18 July and leaving for Tanzania on 22 July. In both countries the minister will take part in aid talks and see some development projects.

On the way back to the UK, Mrs Hart will break her journey in Nairobi for a few hours for an exchange of views on Kenya's development with government ministers. She is due back in London on 27 July.

Third world rural development

Natural resources specialists from 36 developing countries have been meeting in London this week (10 to 15 July) for a six-day conference. The gathering is an annual event arranged by the Ministry of Overseas Development as part of the overseas aid programme and the aim this year will be to study the relevance and influence of the ministry's research effort in the renewable natural resources field to the problem of rural development in the third world.

Based at Imperial College, London, delegates are making day visits to see the work being undertaken at a group of the ministry's scientific units. They are going to the Directorate of Overseas Surveys at Tolworth, Surrey, which assists developing countries in land surveying and mapping and to the neighbouring Land Resources Division which investigates and assesses land resources and makes recommendations on the use of these resources for the development of agriculture, livestock husbandry and forestry. They will then be going to the Centre for Overseas Pest Research in Kensington which co-operates with developing countries in the tropics in solving pest problems that are a threat to agriculture and public health, and to the Tropical Products Institute in Holborn, which is concerned with post-harvest problems of the developing world.

Apart from the outside visits there are evening sessions at Imperial College for talks and discussions.

EUROPE

Dell goes to Copenhagen

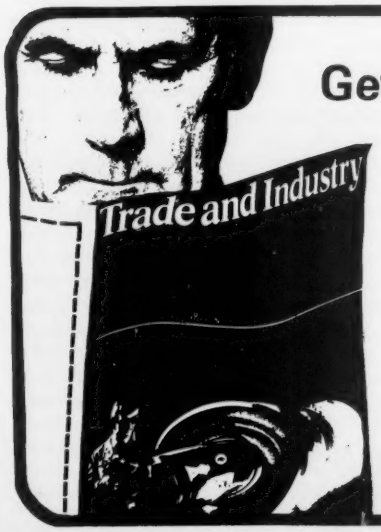
Following visits to Bonn in January and The Hague in March, Secretary of State for Trade Edmund Dell was in Copenhagen this week (12 and 13 July) for the third of his series of visits to European countries to discuss industrial democracy and other aspects of company law.

During his visit, Mr Dell met Erling Jensen, the Danish Minister of Labour, and senior members of the Danish Employers' Confederation and Trades Union Federation.

ECSC loan to NCB

Approval of a loan of £53 million to the National Coal Board under article 54 of the European Coal and Steel Community treaty was announced by the European Commission on Wednesday.

The loan, which will help to finance 10 investment projects will be disbursed in phase with progress on the projects. The terms of each instalment will depend on market conditions at the time.



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Home news

Recommended retail prices examined

The effect of recommended retail prices has been the subject of discussion for some years. As a contribution to the factual knowledge of this subject, the Price Commission was asked by the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection to study the relationship between recommended or suggested prices and the prices actually charged, and the extent to which such prices are advertised or otherwise made known. The commission's report* on recommended retail prices was published on 7 July.

Robert Maclennan, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, said in parliament that he would be having talks with various organisations concerned with the subject. The commission's report would provide a guide to situations which the new Price Commission may be directed to examine under the powers of the Price Commission Bill, which would permit the secretary of state to prohibit the use of recommended prices in particular sectors, following a Price Commission recommendation.

The report is essentially statistical in character and designed to provide information rather than conclusions; it does not answer the question whether recommended prices keep retail prices up or not. The study covered 87 products in the following sectors: photographic goods, consumer electronics, carpets, footwear, hardware, food and non-food groceries, spirits, toiletry, and car parts. 'Own-brand' products were excluded. In all, over 6000 prices were collected with the assistance of the commission's regional organisation, and much information was obtained from manufacturers.

The commission included in its consideration the prices published in a number of trade guides used by retailers. While many of these prices are those recommended by manufacturers or other suppliers, the guides also suggest prices in the absence of a supplier's recommendation. 'Guide' prices may therefore have the same effect as recommended retail prices.

The main feature of the report is the extent to which recommended prices vary in their incidence and frequency both between the sectors studied and even within sectors. It is impossible to apply any general rule of thumb to establish the effect of such prices on prices charged in the shops.

The commission identified three distinct types of case. The first was where prices actually charged were close to the recommended retail price. Here the recommended retail price had inherited the role of the former practice of resale price maintenance. This pattern was prevalent in the sale of films, living-room furniture, cosmetics, clothing and footwear.

The second was where prices bear little resemblance to the recommended retail price and the spread of prices is similar to that which occurs where there is no recommended retail price. Here the function of the recommended retail price seemed largely to provide a marker to indicate 'reductions' to the purchaser.

A third type was that in which prices were distributed around two points, one being the recommended retail price and the other about 20 to 30 per cent below it. Here the two distributions appeared to be linked to the kind of shops at which the article was purchased. Small independent shops tended to charge the recommended retail price while larger organisations (eg supermarkets) set prices at the lower level.

There was evidence that, over the last decade, the frequency with which recommended retail prices are charged has declined. An examination of variations in selling prices showed as a rule that, although money could be saved on a particular item by shopping around, no one type of outlet other than a discount house or hypermarket (if available in the locality) would give a better all-round value than any other.

The report also contains sections on double pricing and the publicity given to recommended retail prices.

* 'Recommended Retail Prices'. Price Commission report no. 25, HMSO, price £2.25.

Effect of abandoning RRP

A supplementary report* by the Price Commission on prices of sanitary protection products was published on 7 July. In a previous report on this subject published in September 1975, the commission proposed that the practice of recommending retail prices for sanitary towels and tampons should be abandoned. The Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection subsequently had discussions with the trade which led to the implementation of the proposal by nearly all suppliers. The purpose of the supplementary report was to see what had happened to retail prices between May/June 1975 and February 1977 for the same sample of products (seven in all) and shops.

The commission found that the average gross percentage margin for the sample had fallen in both multiple and independent shops. Between the two dates, the wholesale price index for sanitary protection products rose by 31 per cent, but retail prices increased by only 19 per cent. The number of products with manufacturers' recommended retail prices dropped from six in May 1975 to one in February 1977 but trade guides for chemists and grocers continued to list 'suggested' or 'recommended' prices. These prices, however, vary considerably – a marked contrast to the uniformity noted in the earlier study.

The commission considers that the results of the study are consistent with increased competition. This trend had started even before the commission's examination of 1975, so that the abolition of recommended retail prices may well have added impetus to the existing trend.

* Prices of Sanitary Towels and Tampons – Supplementary Report. Price Commission report no. 24. HMSO, price 40.

Final report on the press

The final report of the Royal Commission on the Press*, published on 7 July, comes down against subsidies for the press and any new form of government intervention, but in favour of measures to strengthen the monopolies legislation as it affects newspapers, and of changes in the composition and procedures of the Press Council. On the closed shop in journalism it sets out safeguards for press freedom which the commission believes should be embodied in the charter being drafted by the Secretary of State for Employment or, if necessary, in legislation.

The government wants a period of wide ranging public consultation and discussion on the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Press. Albert Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, is to start consultations on the charter of press freedom, and comments on other aspects of the report should be sent to Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade.

Prime Minister, James Callaghan, in reply to a question in parliament on 7 July, said that the report covered in depth, and made a number of recommendations on, a wide range of matters concerning the press in this country, including freedom of expression within the limits of fair comment, the proposed charter of press freedom, the rights of individuals to privacy, the role of the Press Council, the maintenance of diversity, the avoidance of undue concentration among the news media, training and industrial relations. An addendum to chapter 10 dealt with recent allegations in the *Daily Mail* about British Leyland. The royal commission felt that this was a prime example of an abuse, the basing of contentious opinion on inaccurate information, which was a long-standing example of serious misconduct on the part of some of the press, although the commission did not find in this justification for changing its general views and recommendations. There was a minority report signed by David Basnett and Geoffrey Goodman recommending the estab-

* 'The Report of the Royal Commission on the Press' (cmnd 6810), HMSO, price £4.25.

lishment of a national printing corporation and of a fund to assist new publications, in order to increase the diversity of the press. Mr Basnett and Mr Goodman believe that the addendum to chapter 10 seriously understated the political bias in the national press and that steps needed to be taken to encourage a better political balance.

Mr Callaghan paid tribute to the work done by the late Sir Morris Finer, Professor McGregor, and their colleagues on the royal commission. The government would now wish to have a period of wide-ranging public consultation and discussion on the royal commission's recommendations, and to hear the views of representatives bodies and others, both within and outside the newspaper industry, whose interests and experience bring them most closely into touch with the issues raised by the report, he said.

The Secretary of State for Employment, the Prime Minister concluded, had already stated his intention to start the consultations on the charter of press freedom with the parties concerned required by the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Amendment) Act 1976, once they had had the opportunity to study the royal commission's findings. Comments on other aspects of the report should be sent to the Private Secretary to the Secretary of State for Trade, Department of Trade, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, not later than 31 December 1977.

Industrial relations in provincial press

The diverse nature of industrial relations in provincial newspapers and periodicals is illustrated in an Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service report* published on 7 July. It shows that houses vary in the type of ownership and numbers employed; technology; product; and the market pressures they face. The report results from a request to Acas by the Royal Commission on the Press to examine procedures and practices in the newspaper and periodical industry, and to suggest any improvements that appear necessary or desirable.

Three factors particularly influence the state of industrial relations in these industries. First the number of people employed: 69 per cent of the 280 separate newspaper houses employ fewer than 250 people. Secondly, a product of interrelated factors: the threat to job security posed by new technology, the general economic recession, and the growth of non-union subcontracting agencies. Thirdly, the sectional approach to bargaining exerts a significant influence on the state of industrial relations.

The report recommends that joint union/management committees should be established in all but the very small houses to review and discuss all matters affecting the house. Similar committees should be established at industry level between employers' associations and trade unions. A joint review of disputes procedures and negotiating arrangements at both house and industry level is recommended.

Employers are urged to formulate comprehensive industrial relations policies, clarify the responsibilities of line managers and train all managers in industrial relations matters. Employers' associations are urged to give priority to improving forward planning; establishing machinery for maintaining a regular dialogue with the trade unions; increase the number of industrial relations staff and set up closer formal contacts with other employers' associations.

Trade unions are urged to promote closer links with other unions at house and industry level with the eventual aim of merging together; to increase the number of full-time officials and to encourage the training of fathers of chapels.

* Industrial Relations in the Provincial Newspaper and Periodical Industries, cmnd 6810-2, HMSO, price £2.60.

Policy for considering dispensations from insurance regulations

In reply to a question in parliament on 6 July, Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Trade, explained the policy he is adopting in considering applications from insurers under section 68(4) of the Insurance Companies Act 1974 for alteration of the requirements of regulations governing long-term policies.

Mr Clinton Davis said that the purpose of the Insurance Companies (Linked Properties and Indices) Regulations 1975 (SI 1975, no. 929) was to safeguard the interests of the policyholder by ensuring that benefits under linked long-term insurance policies might only be determined by reference to the value of suitable assets or to suitable indices of asset values. This was also his overriding concern in considering dispensations from these regulations under section 68(4).

The regulations restricted the assets and indices of asset values by reference to which benefits under linked long-term policies might be determined to a list that followed closely the suggestions made in paragraph 137 of the report of the Committee on Property Bonds and Equity-Linked Life Assurance chaired by Sir Hilary Scott (cmnd 5281). In the light of events since the Scott committee reported in 1973, Mr Clinton Davis was adopting a cautious line in considering future requests from insurers for dispensations under s. 68(4). He would be guided by the following principles which were to be read together:

1 He should not permit benefits to be linked to any asset not already permitted under the regulations that was not a permitted investment for a unit trust authorised in Great Britain (in other words not a security within the meaning of s. 26 of the Prevention of Fraud (Investments) Act 1958).

2 As for unquoted securities (in which authorised unit trusts are permitted to invest a limited proportion of their assets) he did not consider it appropriate for him to attempt to identify those which were acceptable as assets to which benefits might be linked in the way suggested in paragraph 137 of the Scott committee report. He did not therefore propose to use his powers under section 68(4) to permit benefits under policies to be linked to securities for which there was no quotation on a recognised stock exchange, unless the security was simply a vehicle for investing in permitted assets.

3 In the case of all other applications for the

Prime Minister sees modernised factory

Prime Minister James Callaghan visited the CAV factory at Gillingham, Kent, on 6 July to see for himself an example of the modernisation taking place in British industry. CAV, a Lucas Industries company, has just completed a £13.5 million expansion programme at its Medway factories. The company directly and indirectly exports over 75 per cent of production of fuel injection equipment for diesel engines. John Watt, operator of one of the new machine tools recently installed by the company, explained to the Prime Minister how components are automatically friction welded.

linking of benefits to non-permitted assets (including applications in respect of unquoted securities that are simply a vehicle for investing in permitted assets) he would only be prepared to exercise his powers under section 68(4) where he could readily be satisfied that the proposal was likely to be advantageous to prospective policyholders and not detrimental to other sections of the public, and that the following criteria were met:

3:1 that a generally acceptable and reasonably reliable market value for the property could be obtained;

3:2 in the case of types of property for which there was no continuously available market price, that there was a professional body whose members were qualified to act as independent valuers for that property;

3:3 that the market in the property was not too narrow or specialised; and

3:4 that the proposal did not increase the chance of loss to the policyholder through fraud or conflict of interest.

In a few cases benefits under existing schemes were already, with his consent, linked to the value of assets not permitted under the regulations. He was considering whether these schemes met the criteria in paragraph 2 above; if not, he would be prepared to consider transitional arrangements.

Training incentive for small employers

As an additional incentive to small employers to train, the Hotel and Catering Industry Training Board is to amend its training grant schemes for employers excluded from paying levy so that grants can be paid at more frequent intervals: in future it is intended that two grants will be paid, one during the training year and the second at its conclusion. Up to June 1977 only one grant payment is made after the training year has ended.

The decision that grant to excluded employers (currently those employers with an annual payroll of less than £62,500 a year) shall be paid twice a year is in line with recommendations from the industry, in particular the British Hotels, Restaurants and Caterers' Association, the Brewers' Society and the board's regional advisory committees, which have expressed the view that to reduce the time lag between carrying out training and receiving grant could significantly assist small employers to increase their training effort.

Subject to approval by the Training Services Agency, it is hoped that the current grant schemes (1977-78) can be amended to make the change in the current year. This method of payment will be included in the 1978-79 grant schemes.

Small firms subsidy for extra jobs

Small manufacturing firms in some areas can, from 1 July, claim £20 a week under the small firms employment subsidy for each extra job they provide. This experimental government scheme to help small businesses will run for the six months to 31 December 1977 in the special development areas in the north-east, north-west and parts of Wales and Scotland. In these areas levels of unemployment are much higher than the national average.

A small firm can qualify for the subsidy if it is an independent business in the private sector of industry and employed under 50 workers on 29 March 1977 when the scheme was first announced. Payments will be made for up to 26 weeks for each extra full-time job. The subsidy will be halved if the job is for 21 hours or more but less than 35 hours a week. No payments can be made for jobs which the government already supports. For new businesses which start up after 29 March 1977 and meet the conditions of the scheme, the subsidy can be claimed for all the jobs provided.

The scheme is to be tested on a small scale as it is a relatively untried method of helping to combat the effects of high unemployment. Leaflets and advice on how the scheme is to operate can be obtained from regional offices of the Department of Employment. Firms claiming or receiving selective financial assistance from the Department of Industry should ask whether they can also claim the subsidy.

North Sea fire service

Following the Norwegian Ekofisk 'blow-out', safety precautions on the British oil and gas rigs in the North Sea are being checked and improved where possible. Here, aboard the British Petroleum firefighting and maintenance vessel, 'Forties Kiwi', with monitoring helicopter in attendance, an operative wearing the special firefighting suit of luminous asbestos, prepares for a training session. 'Forties Kiwi' has powerful firefighting equipment, a helideck, a large workshop for emergency repairs and auxiliary propulsion units to assist in maintaining position. The ship – formerly the tanker, 'British Kiwi' – was recently converted at a cost of about £5 million.

'T & I' index inquiries

Readers wanting to know when articles and items of information were published in *Trade and Industry* should consult the published indexes which are issued free to subscribers. For material published in recent months, inquiries of this kind can be made to the Department of Industry Library's indexing section, tel. 01-215 5842. (Alternative no 01-215 5051.)

Inflation accounting

Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping, Department of Trade, in reply to a question in parliament on 8 July, said that the government, like the Council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, reaffirmed its support for the early introduction of a system of inflation accounting; it also reaffirmed its desire that current cost accounting should become the basis for the preparation of company accounts as soon as practicable.

The council, Mr Clinton Davis noted, in its statement of 6 July had recognised that there should be a re-appraisal of the approach to the introduction of inflation accounting; and that the council intended to urge the Accounting Standards Committee to hold further consultations with representatives of finance, commerce, industry and the government. The government welcomed this approach.

The draft EEC fourth directive on company accounts, which was still under negotiation, would allow member states to introduce systems of inflation accounting, including current cost accounting, if they so wished, Mr Clinton Davis said.

Wood and bark import controls changed

A new order has been made by the Forestry Commissioners under powers contained in the Plant Health Act 1967. The order, known as the Importation of Wood and Bark (Prohibition) (Great Britain) Order 1977 (SI 1977 No 901)*, came into operation on 11 July 1977 and extends the provisions of the existing Importation of Wood (Prohibition) (Great Britain) Order 1974 which is revoked.

The 1974 order was made to control the importation of the wood of oak, sweet chestnut, elm and the coniferous genera. As a result of practical experience and the continuing spread of some diseases in other countries, the commissioners decided that changes were needed in these controls to improve protection against the introduction

* HMSO, price 25p.

into Great Britain of oak wilt and diseases and pests carried with or under the bark of coniferous wood.

Under the proposals for oak wilt, the requirement for the removal of bark from oak and sweet chestnut is extended to cover imports from all regions in north America. For coniferous wood the removal of bark is required in the case of all imports from all countries outside Europe, and the bark is to be removed in respect of spruce imported from all countries in Europe. The importation of isolated bark is also prohibited.

Two exceptions will allow the importation under Forestry Commission licence of the isolated bark of the cork oak and of spruce with bark attached for ladder making.

Change in baggage rules for USA/UK scheduled flights

The Airline Users Committee would like to alert the air travelling public to the new rules for the free baggage allowance and excess charges on flights to and from the USA. Under the rules, which came into force on 1 June 1977, baggage is now assessed according to size rather than weight.

The committee is concerned at the apparent lack of publicity given to the new rules. Although the rules are shown on the passenger ticket, travellers do not always read the 'small print' and advance information is at present available only from airline staff and agents. The AUC strongly urges all airlines to take immediate steps to make details of the new system more widely known to the travelling public directly affected by them.

Official appointments

British Airports Authority: Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, has re-appointed Maurice Marks, director of planning at the National Enterprise Board, as a part-time member of the board of the British Airports Authority for a period of three years from 1 August 1977.

Patents endorsed 'licences of right'

Under section 35 of the Patents Act 1949, the following patents were endorsed 'licences of right' on the dates specified.

28 June 1977

1417609 Automobiles Citroen
Anti-locking braking system

1417921 Automobiles Citroen
Anti-locking braking system

1421433 Automobiles Citroen
Anti-locking braking system

1422595 Automobiles Citroen
Hydraulic unit for an anti-locking braking system

1153921 Sperry Rand Corporation
Bearings

1317760 Guido Belforte
Apparatus for controlling a volumetric artificial respirator

1319093 Forges de Bologne
Method of and apparatus for forming forged parts

1337084 S.A.R.L. D'Argenteuil
Method for the production of water soluble polymers

1452086 Kluber Lubrication Munchen Kommandit Gesellschaft
A method of applying lubricants and/or lubricating adjuvants

30 June 1977

1296338 Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd
Gunn effect oscillator device

1361501 Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd
Foamed plastics articles

1406369 Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd
Improvements in or relating to telecommunications exchange equipment

1406933 Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd
Electric wave filter

1412901 Standard Telephones and Cables Ltd
Acoustic delay line

1175944 International Standard Electric Corporation
Improvements to electronic scanners

1434986 International Standard Electric Corporation
Antenna system

1446901 International Standard Electric Corporation
Antenna system

1450206 International Standard Electric Corporation
Antenna system

1037434 Ernst Lietz Wetzlar Gesellschaft
Improvements in or relating to microscope objectives

1336532 The Republic of France represented by le Ministre d'Etat charge de La Defense Nationale, Delegation Ministerielle pour l'Armement (Direction des Poudres)
Improvements in or relating to the preparation of dry nitrocellulose granules

1443699 Jack Blackburn
Improvements in or relating to the production of reinforced grass on root impermeable surfaces

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on patents form 45 within two months after the date of endorsement.

E. Armitage, Comptroller

Insurance Companies Act 1974: authorisations and revocations

The following authorisations to carry on insurance business in Great Britain were revoked by the Secretary of State for Trade under section 9 of the Insurance Companies Act 1974 during the period 1 June to 30 June 1977.

Name of insurer and registered office or address in GB	Country of incorporation if outside GB	Date of revocation	Class or classes of insurance business for which authorisation was revoked
Grimsby Mutual Compensation Fund Ltd Fish Docks Grimsby DN31 3PD	—	15.6.77	LIAB
Grimsby Steam Fishing Vessels Mutual Insurance and Protecting Co Ltd Fish Docks Grimsby DN31 3PD	—	17.6.77	MAT
The Nippon Fire and Marine Insurance Co Ltd c/o Alsop Stevens Batesons and Co 29 Mincing Lane London EC3R 7EB	Japan	22.6.77	PROP
Southport and District Traders' Mutual Plate Glass Insurance Society c/o Lithgow, Nelson and Co 399 Lord Street Southport PR9 0AS	—	22.6.77	PROP

Classes of business

I	Industrial assurance business
LIAB	Liability insurance business
MAT	Marine, aviation and transport insurance business
MV	Motor vehicle insurance business
OLT	Ordinary long-term insurance business
PL	Pecuniary loss insurance business
PA	Personal accident insurance business
PROP	Property insurance business

Government sales

Ministry of Defence

Sales by auction

27 July 1977—Miscellaneous stores

Location
Auctioneers' premises

Auctioneers
Woolland Son and Manico (Dept. L), Kinterbury House, St Andrew 's Cross, Plymouth PL1 2DQ (tel. 0752 69292)

The stores lying at various depots in the West Country include textiles and clothing, furniture, machine and hand tools, vehicle and MT spares, engineering and electrical equipment, paint, jerricans and many other interesting items.

3 August 1977—Miscellaneous stores

Location
The Post House Hotel, Herbert Walker Avenue, Southampton, Hants

Auctioneers
Austin and Wyatt (Dept. L), 79 High Street, Fareham, Hants (tel. 03292 4211/4)

The stores lying at various depots include large quantities of furniture, clothing, textiles and footwear, household effects, suitcases, photographc and optical equipment, engineering equipment, ammunition boxes, jerricans, MT spares and tyres, fork lift trucks and many other items.

Catalogues which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times etc, are available from the auctioneers from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale, price 20p, postage and packing 10p extra (postal orders only).

The Register of Restrictive Trading Agreements (Restrictive Trade Practices Act 1976)

Additions and amendments to the register

Additions and amendments made to the alphabetical index to the register during the quarter ending 30 June 1977 are given below in lists I and II respectively. An explanation of the modified form in which these are now being presented, and of the symbols used in the index, was published in *Trade and Industry* on 7 January 1977 (pages 8 and 9).

Agreements referred to the Restrictive Practices Court

On 10 April 1959 there was published in the *Board of Trade Journal* (page 859) a list of all agreements in respect of which Notices of Reference (constituting formal commencement of proceedings before the Restrictive Practices Court) had been issued, except those which had already been dealt with by the court. Subsequent additions have been published at approximately quarterly intervals; there have been no additions to the list in the period ending 30 June 1977.

Agreements not to be referred to the Restrictive Practices Court

The Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection may, on the representation of the Director General of Fair Trading, give directions under section 21(2) of the Restrictive Trade Practices Act 1976, discharging him from the duty of referring an agreement to the Restrictive Practices Court. These agreements are indicated in the index to the register by the symbol 'B' and any addition during the period can readily be identified from the last column in list II.

'D' and 'F' agreements

Similarly, additions during the period to lists of agreements determined or varied to like effect can be readily identified from the symbol 'D' or 'F' respectively, together with the month and year concerned, given in the last column of lists I and II. This is explained more fully on page 9 of *Trade and Industry* of 7 January.

Inspection of the register

The register may be inspected between 10 am and 4.30 pm on any weekday except Saturday and certain holidays at any of the following addresses:

Office of Fair Trading (Public Search Room):
Room 517, Chancery House, 57 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1SP;
9 Hope Street, Edinburgh EH2 4EL;
Department of Commerce*, 176 Newtownbreda Road, Belfast BT1 4JX

In accordance with SI 1977 no. 612 which came into operation on 9 May 1977, the fee for inspecting the register is £1.00 per day, but if fewer than five agreements are inspected, the fee is 20p for each agreement.

Indices to the register, including ones in which commodities and services are grouped by classes, may be inspected at these addresses free of charge. There is also a card index available for inspection, listing the parties to 'service' agreements in alphabetical order.

* Only Northern Ireland agreements can be inspected on demand at this address but other agreements will be obtained for inquirers if required after inspecting the indices.

LIST I – ADDITIONS TO THE REGISTER

Registered no. of agreement	Commodity or service	Area if local	See first paragraph on symbols
S/457	Administration (car leasing)		
S/118	Advertising		
S/283	Advertising		
S/384	Advertising		
S/536	Advertising		
S/586	Advertising		
S/588	Advertising photography		
4037	Advertising publications	Tyneside	
4070	Agrochemicals		
4000	Antimony		
S/370	Bailiffs' services	England and Wales	
S/564	Betting		
4000	Bismuth		
4000	Cadmium		
S/328	Commercial radio		
3964	Computer consumable products		
3964	Computer software		
4093	Concrete, ready mixed	Maidenhead, Slough and Windsor	
S/221	Contract cleaning		
4077	Diazo copying machines		D3/77
4087	Diazo copying materials		
4078	Drafting film		D3/77
4079	Drafting film		D3/77
4080	Drafting film		D3/77
4081	Drafting film		D3/77
4082	Drafting film		D3/77
4083	Drafting film		D3/77
4084	Drawing office equipment		D3/77
4085	Drawing office equipment		D3/77
4065	Electric lighting equipment		
S/55	Film producers' services		
4032	Fish	Whitehaven and Northern Ireland	E3/77
4033	Fishmeal raw material	Hull	
4098	Jute fabrics		
4098	Jute goods		
S/420	Landscaping		
4075	Leisure outer wear		
S/349	Loan facilities		
S/457	Loan facilities (car leasing)		
4000	Magnesium		
4000	Mercury		
4000	Nickel		
4063	Pet foods		D1/77
4064	Pet foods		
S/480	Photographic modelling		
S/262	Poster advertising		
4068	Pre-insulated underground mains		
4066	Press photographs		F3/77
S/599	Racehorse training		
S/169	Removal – international		
S/609	Repairs and reconditioning of electrical machinery		
4086	Reprographic chemicals		D3/77
S/91	Road haulage		
S/525	Road passenger transport	Greater Manchester	
4000	Selenium		
S/92	Ship brokerage	Hartlepool	
S/27	Ship brokerage	Teesside	
S/70	Shipping	Heysham and Belfast	
4094	Steel reinforcing bars – fabricated		
S/326	Stevedoring – transfer arrangements	London	
S/422	Television advertising	Scotland	
3961	Transmission equipment for digital line system		D3/77
4036	Transmission equipment for digital line system		
S/161	Tug services		

LIST II – AMENDMENTS TO THE INDEX

Registered no. of agreement	Register index entry	Area if local	Amendment
3856	Bacon pigs		B4/75 add E5/77
3025	Fish		Add D5/77
3166	Fishmeal		Add D3/76
S/13	Footwear repairing		Add B5/77
S/572	Footwear repairing		Add B5/77
3686	Groceries and other provisions		Add B5/77
S/436	Hotel and guest houses	Alnwick and District	Add D4/77
S/74	Laundering	Ulster	Add F5/77
1077	Motor vehicle accessories		Add F3/77
1077	Motor vehicle components		Add F3/77
3968	Pet food	F4/76	Add D12/76
S/60	Shipping – cargo documentation	Dundee	Add F5/77
S/57	Shipping – cargo documentation	Goole	Add F3/77
1348	Structural steelwork		Add B5/77
S/120	Tug services	London	Add F7/77

Industrial news pictures

Pictures are published in *Trade and Industry* each week showing developments in British industry. If your company has introduced an interesting new product, if you have received an award, if you have developed a novel manufacturing process, if you have produced the biggest or smallest or heaviest or (you feel) the best designed product, you are welcome to send us a photograph with a short news story.

Contributions should be sent promptly – while the subject is still newsworthy – to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

New publications

Filling the gap

Stockbrokers' reports are often mentioned in the financial pages of the national press, and increasingly surveys of economic trends get national coverage on radio or tv. Yet it has hitherto been difficult to know exactly what publications are available from stockbrokers. A step forward filling this gap has now been taken by an invaluable pamphlet issued by the Oxford Centre for Management Studies.

This concise guide lists 24 British firms prepared to make their reports available to a wider readership, together with details of their respective specialisations and titles of regular publications. Prices and restrictions on availability are also given, and in many cases the name of a contact. A subject index makes for easy access to the different sources of specialism.

The information is based on replies to questionnaires circulated during the spring of this year: it is good to see the end product available so quickly. Recommended!

Stockbrokers' Research and Information Services available to non-investor clients. Compiled by K. Patience Hilton and John G. Watson. (16 pages. Oxford Centre for Management Studies. June 1977. £1.50.)

Rise of state intervention

The line between the private and public sector of industry is becoming increasingly blurred. The nature of most non-communist bloc advanced industrial societies reflect the fundamental post-war changes of emphasis in the economic power of the state: changes due to the rise of multinationals, the closer co-operation in economic management both within and between national economies, and the necessity of ever greater investment outlays. A notable feature in this convergence has been the use of the limited company device for public purposes. The nationalised industries were created by statute but they also acquired all or part of the shares in subsidiary companies formed under the Companies Act. This enhancement of state intervention through the use of the implicit powers of the Companies Act has had a profound effect on the relationship between the firm and government.

These developments and their subsequent redrawing of the already hazy demarcation between government and industry, together with a detailed examination of the machinery by which ministerial decisions are balanced by controls and safeguards, are central to the author's concern in 'Government and Industry'. The relevant constitutional issues are explored and assessed, as is the all important monitoring function by government departments and independent agencies.

A useful adjunct to the text is the inclusion of a list of select committee reports and a table of relevant statutes. In a relatively brief compass this volume manages to be both informative and provocative.

Government and Industry: the provision of financial assistance to industry and its control, by Gabriele Ganz. (112 pages. Professional Books Ltd, Milton Trading Estate, Abingdon, Oxon. 1977. £5.80. ISBN 0 093486 34 2.)

Approach to EEC banking

Umbrella studies on individual areas of business and commerce in the EEC continue to appear. A typical approach is the Banker Research Unit's recent survey of the banking systems of the nine member-states – it provides nine substantial chapters, one devoted to each country, plus a tenth on EEC harmonisation.

Each chapter is written by a working banker from the country concerned, and while similar in outline they vary slightly in scope and emphasis. In general the topics covered include an outline of the legal status of banks, the banking structure as a whole, the laws and regulations governing the banking system with particular attention to solvency and liquidity requirements and the role of the central bank. There are also accounts of the different types of banks in operation, such as credit and savings banks, and accounts of other financial institutions.

Other sections deal with export finance and credit arrangements, money markets and exchange control. There are also lists of banks operating in each country with addresses and telephone and telex numbers. For some countries there are outline accounts as at December 1975. The UK article includes some figures up to October 1976.

Banking and Sources of Finance in the European Community. Edited by Philip Thorn and Jean M. Lack. (313 pages. Banker Research Unit, Bracken House, Cannon Street, London EC4P 4BY. £25.00 (UK), US $50.00 (overseas).)

World food problem

In a new publication which returns to policy issues surrounding the world food problem, the British-North American Committee combines a succinct analysis of the Soviet agricultural system with an assessment of the impact on world grain markets – and hence on international price stability, and of the emergence of the Soviet Union as a large scale grain importer since 1972.

This led to the bilateral five-year US-Soviet grain supply agreement of October 1975, which, the author suggests, could have the effect of limiting the free or available supply of grain in the international market. On the other hand, Professor Johnson is confident that, given reasonable world weather conditions, Soviet net grain imports can be absorbed without major increases in international grain prices.

Inevitably this change in Soviet food-agricultural policy is a potential source of instability in world food markets, and, while not drawing any firm conclusions, the author points to possible effects in developing countries, on the EEC common agricultural policy, and on the overall trend toward political détente between east and west.

The Soviet Impact on World Grain Trade by D. Gale Johnson. (72 pages. May 1977. British-North American Committee. £1.75. ISBN 0 902594 30 4.)

Second edition improvements

It is often difficult to keep track of glossaries and specialist subject dictionaries. A case in point is the *International Glossary of Leather Terms* which has now appeared in a second edition. While the scope remains the same, it has been revised and enlarged since it first appeared in 1968. Terms are given in five languages: English, French, German, Spanish and Italian. The use of coloured papers makes the identification of each language section easy.

In the earlier edition material on mechnical and textile leathers was poorly represented, and this is now expanded. New terms have been added and a revision of some definitions, including that for 'leather'! Another feature is the introduction of additional generic terms, giving, for example, 'jungle suede' under 'suede'. These form a comprehensive cross-reference system.

The system of numerical cross-references in the first edition has been replaced by giving all foreign-language terms after the English version. This is a great improvement.

International Glossary of Leather Terms. Second Edition. (320 pages. International Council of Tanners, 9 St Thomas Street, London SE1 9SA. 1975. £5.00).

'T & I' subscriptions and sales

Subscriptions and sales inquiries about *Trade and Industry* should be directed to HMSO at any of the following addresses: 49 High Holborn, London WC1V 6HB; 13a Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AR; Brazennose Street, Manchester M60 8AS; 258 Broad Street, Birmingham B1 2HE; 41 The Hayes, Cardiff CF1 1JW; Wine Street, Bristol BS1 2BQ; 80 Chichester Street, Belfast BT1 4JY, or through any bookseller.

New products

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in this section, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

Radio-controlled crane

The need for operator safety and minimum disruption of production, particularly where movements of extra large or bulky loads are involved, has led to increased interest in overhead cranes operated by radio control.

John Smith (Keighley) Ltd, manufacturers of electric overhead travelling cranes, now supply radio-controlled cranes and in order to demonstrate them, have installed radio equipment to one of their existing 10 ton cranes used in their workshops at Bradford Road, Keighley.

Radio control of cranes provides major savings in operating costs without the disadvantages of pendant control and is of benefit where lifting is being carried out in an unpleasant, dangerous or restricted working environment. The operator is well clear of the crane, which is manoeuvred from a battery-operated belt mounted control box, transmitting to a receiver situated on the span girder.

An important safety factor is that the equipment has a limited pre-fixed range to ensure that the operator is always within the desired safety radius around the load he is controlling.

Further information: circle 547

Heavy duty cable measuring machine

A heavy duty cable measuring machine is now available from the Trumeter Co Ltd of Manchester for measuring cable, wire, rope, plastic extrusions and continuous strip materials of all types from 6 mm to 76 mm in diameter.

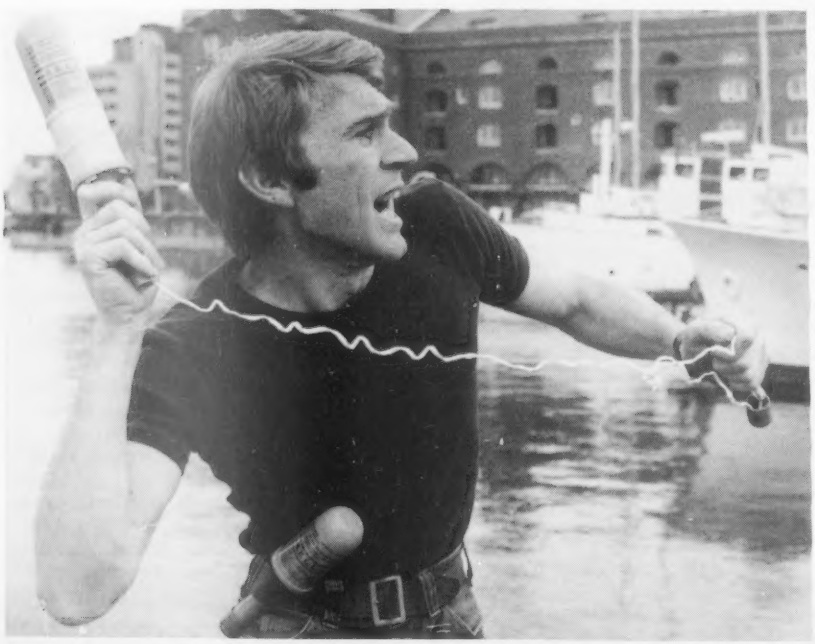
A brake is fitted to the mobile stand, which is fitted with nylon wheeled castors, to ensure complete stability in use. The stand is expected to be particularly useful in locations such as manufacturer's cable stores, where it will be far easier to take the machine to large capacity storage reels than vice versa, when measuring off cable on to smaller despatch reels.

Further information: circle 548

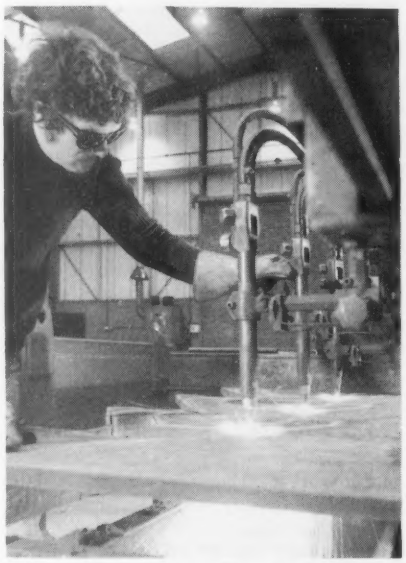
Emergency lifeline

This emergency life line made by Balcan Engineering of Lincolnshire can be hurled about 25 m by hand or up to 44 m by 'Flikstik' and, in flight, pays out the line packed inside it. Both the BELL RP and the BELL PRO (tucked in the rescuers' belt) contain 40 m of 260 lb breaking strain floating polypropylene braided line. The canisters are made of plastic with built-in buoyancy and are brightly coloured. The lifelines have many uses in particular, for canoeing, lifeguards, masters in charge of water activities and yachtsmen.

Further information: circle 549



Gases for cutting and shielding



Profile cutting using 'Apachi' and oxygen gases. Improved production of cable handling equipment for the mining industry at Perard Engineering Ltd, Ripley, has resulted from the use of 'Apachi' and oxygen metal cutting gases and 'Coogar' welding shielding gases supplied by Air Products Ltd of New Malden. 'Apachi', a methylacetylene-based fuel gas, together with oxygen, is supplied for profile cutting, both gases being stored as liquid in bulk tanks, and piped to the profiling shops. It has increased cutting speeds. 'Coogar', a gas mixture of argon and carbon dioxide, can be used in semi-automatic welding, as the shielding gas for mild steel and manganese to mild steel welding and is said to improve welding capacity.

Further information: circle 550

Water chillers

To extend the range of capacities of their packaged water chillers and condensing units, Dunham-Bush Ltd. of Portsmouth have introduced two new models, the OPCA 050S and the OCUA 050S.

Designed for outdoor use, both units are supplied with all internal pipework and electrical wiring completed, with the correct charge of refrigerant, ready in every way for connecting to the external chilled water and electrical systems on site.

Typical applications would include air conditioning in conjunction with air handling units or multiple room fan-coil units, process cooling food storage and many other installations where there is a need for closed circuit water or brine cooling.

Further information: circle 551

Technology news

Career opportunities in engineering – new film for schools

Career opportunities for young people in the engineering professions are discussed in a new film launched last week by Mr J. I. James, chairman of Pett – Project: Engineers and Technologists for Tomorrow.

Practical contribution

Entitled 'How About Engineering for You?', the film highlights the challenge of being an engineer in industry and underlines the contribution of the engineer to the vital business of exporting manufactured goods. Introducing the film, James Burke says, 'An engineer isn't just engineering, he's making a valid and important contribution to everybody's life. Engineers are very important people and the world of engineering is full of opportunities.'

The film is in the form of questions and answers which will interest fifth and sixth formers in both art and science streams about to make an important career decision. It brings together in discussion 30 young people still at school who are considering engineering as a career and young engineers in industry already committed and enjoying their new occupation. These young professionals are supported by three senior men from industry, government and education.

This 26-minute colour film is the twentieth in the series of films produced by the Central Office of Information on behalf of the Pett committee, the inter-departmental committee on publicity for engineering and technology.

Research on offshore platforms

The Offshore Supplies Office of the Department of Energy through the Offshore Energy Technology Board are supporting a number of research and development programmes on inspection and integrity monitoring of oil production platforms. The first series, on steel platforms, will be carried out in the North Sea during the next two years by three British companies, at a total estimated cost of £1 million.

This type of investigation is regarded as important and for the past two years the research and development side of the Offshore Supplies Office has been involved in this work.

Nickel cadmium batteries

Chloride Alcad Ltd, manufacturer of industrial nickel cadmium batteries, has just completed the first phase of a £5½ million development project at their Redditch, Worcs plant. In the foreground completed cells leave the new main cell assembly shop. By the early 1980s the project will have more than doubled the plant's present production capacity. This will enable Alcad to increase its share of the world market for industrial pocket plate nickel cadmium cells.

Ship automation

Work has started at the British Ship Research Association, Wallsend, on a ship automation development project aimed at meeting the requirements for merchant ships of the 1980s. The project is being carried out by a BSRA project team in collaboration with industry.

The operational requirements of merchant ships in the 1980s will be investigated and interpreted in terms of the rapidly changing technology. The study will cover a wide range of shipboard activities in the bridge/deck, cargo and machinery areas.

The first phase of the project, which is now under way, is a design study for a highly automated petroleum products tanker. This will be completed in two years when the project will move into an implementation phase aimed at proving the designs on individual ships in service. Initially the programme of work will involve a detailed analysis of shipboard operational procedures and a technical review of a wide range of automation equipment and facilities now becoming available.

Currently, the project is being jointly financed by the Ship and Marine Technology Requirements Board of the Department of Industry and by the UK shipbuilding industry.

Coal technology exchange

General Electric Company (USA) and the National Coal Board of the United Kingdom have reached an agreement to establish a continuing exchange of technical information on the future role of coal in meeting energy needs.

Topics of mutual interest covered by the agreement include developments in coal gasification, liquefaction, fluidised combustion and production of metallurgical fuel.

NCB chairman, Sir Derek Ezra, welcomed the agreement which supplements the five coal research projects based in Britain and managed on behalf of the International Energy Agency by the NCB, the biggest being a fluidised combustion plant in Yorkshire.

The NCB also have exchange agreements involving the US Energy Research and Development Organisation and the Department of the Interior.

Testing for microbiological contamination

Carrying out microbiological tests on a cooling tower pond. Improved sophistication of cooling and air conditioning systems demands a greater need for the treatment and control of biological contamination. Problems arise due to the time required between sampling and laboratory examination by culture methods. Taking sterile samples can also be difficult. Houseman Hegro of Slough has now devised a simple, quick test that enables a quantitative determination of the level of organisms within water systems.

Further information: circle 552

Solar energy research

In 1976, government expenditure on solar energy research in the UK had been about £600,000, said Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Energy, and the total for the other EEC countries (excluding the UK) had been of the order of £10 million the main programmes being in France and Germany. In addition there had been collective expenditure of about £1.2 million by the European Commission as distinct from its member countries. In the United States the expenditure was about £50 million.

These figures were given in answer to a parliamentary question from Mrs Margaret Bain (East Dunbartonshire). He went on to point out that solar energy research was in its infancy in most of these countries and the figures given, although the latest available, might not give a reliable guide to the future level of expenditure.

The UK programme of £6 million to be spent over the next four years, covered developments of solar water and space heating biomass conversion, photovoltaic conversion and insolation data. Some other national programmes covered additional items, which were technically applicable under their conditions.

Travelling laboratories for remote territories

Electronic Instruments Ltd, of Chertsey, part of the George Kent Group, has produced a unit laboratory housed in a prefabricated building, which can be transported to an operating site and used to monitor and control a particular industrial process within a very short time.

Containing a complete range of automatic analytical instruments, the unit laboratory requires only the connection of power, water, drainage and sample lines. Once installed the instruments will perform predetermined analytical functions with the minimum of supervision and servicing. If for any reason manual testing is required the laboratory can be supplied fitted with laboratory benches.

Six units of this type are destined for a new electricity generating station on the River Benin at Sapele, Nigeria.

The firm maintains that, as well as a wide range of industrial applications, similar units could be erected in any part of the world alongside rivers, lakes, canals, or any other source of public water supply for pollution monitoring.

Each Sapele cabin is approximately 10 m long, and the steel framework is covered with a double skin of plastic-coated steel, the inter-skin space of which is filled with thermal insulating material. Atmospheric humidity and temperature inside the cabins are controlled by built-in air conditioning equipment, and the analysers and ancillary equipment are built on to panels fitted with antivibration mountings, giving protection to the instrumentation both during transit and throughout its working life.

The monitoring equipment is automatic, providing continuous output signals which are relayed to strip chart recorders. Maintenance requirements are minimal, the monitors being inspected daily, with calibration checks and, in the case of the silica analysers, reagent replenishment taking place on a weekly basis.

Samples from critical points in the power station steam and water cycle are continuously monitored for such parameters as pH, conductivity, silica and dissolved oxygen.

Further information: circle 553

More radiological protection in Leeds

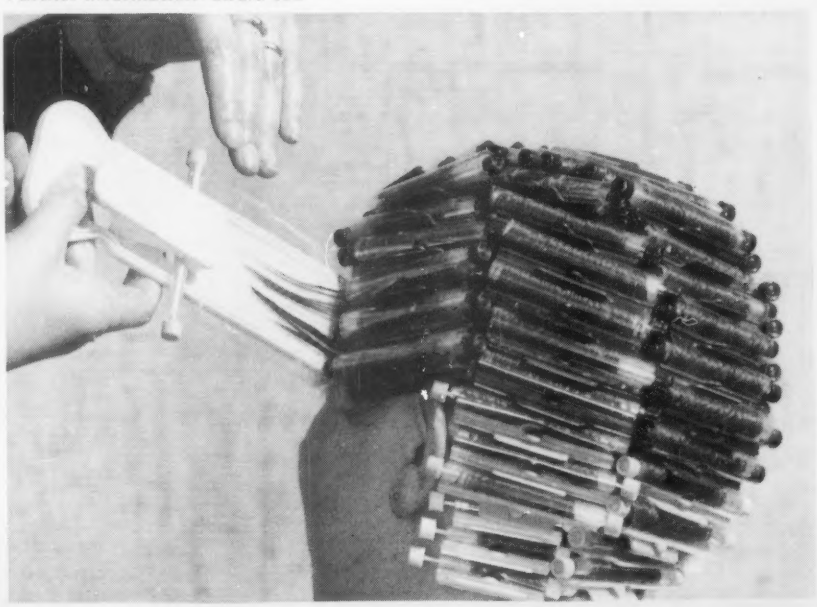
The National Radiological Protection Board with centres at Harwell and Glasgow has now extended its northern centre in Leeds. The northern centre provides the board's general services over a geographical area from the Scottish border to the southern boundaries of Gwynedd, Clwyd, Salop, Staffordshire, Leicestershire and Lincolnshire, with some specific services to the whole of the UK.

Further information: circle 554

Six-minute perm

This automatic permanent waving system, developed by Glenmark International of London is claimed to be quicker and more effective than any conventional method. Called 'Magic Perm' it relieves hairdressers of the task of winding customers' hair on to curlers by hand, taking only six minutes compared with the average 30 minutes for conventional hand winding. The new technique relies on a thermoplastic self-winding curler which is stretched along a loading board and the hair is placed in a straight line along the roller. By releasing a clip on the loading board the curler is automatically re-wound without pulling or stretching the hair.

Further information: circle 555



Parliament

Monday, 4 July

Trade with the European community

John Lee (Birmingham, Handsworth) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what representations he had made during the last 12 months to his opposite numbers in the other countries of the Common Market regarding the adverse balance of trade between the United Kingdom and those countries; what response he had received to his representations; and by what date he expected the adverse balance to be eliminated.

Mr Meacher said that the government was keenly aware of the need to improve Britain's trading performance with Europe and was for example devoting much effort through the BOTB European Trade Committee to assisting British industry's performance there. When firms came up against obstacles such as non-tariff barriers or unfair subsidies the government was always ready to intervene strongly on their behalf. No representations about the adverse trade balance as such had been made. The UK-EEC visible trade deficit had been in the range £2.0-£2.4 million in the period 1974-76 between the years 1975 and 1976 visible exports to the EEC grew half as fast again as imports from the EEC.

Trade with Israel

Eric Moonman (Basildon) asked for the latest figures of trade between the United Kingdom and Israel for the period 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976 and to the latest date in 1977.

Mr Meacher said figures of the United Kingdom's crude trade balance, that is the difference between exports valued fob and imports valued cif, with Israel could be derived from information in tables I and III of volume 1 of the *Annual Statements of Overseas Trade of the United Kingdom* for years 1971 to 1974, in table II and V of the December issues of the *Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom for 1975 and 1976*, and of the May 1977 issue of this publication for the five months ended May.

Visits to communist countries

Iain Sproat (Aberdeen South) asked for a list of the number of United Kingdom residents who visited, for whatever purpose, Yugoslavia, the USSR, Romania, Poland, Hungary, East Germany, Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia, respectively, in the 12 months before the signing of the Helsinki Agreement and in the latest 12 month period for which figures were available.

Mr Meacher gave the latest available information:

Thousands

	Visits(1) by UK residents to:		
	Yugoslavia	USSR/Romania/ Poland/Hungary/ East Germany/ Bulgaria/ Czechoslovakia(2)	
12 months ending:			
June 1975(3)	163	335	—
December 1976	198	356	

(1) All tourist (including business) visits of less than 12 months.
(2) No analysis of these countries separately is available.
(3) Information is analysed quarterly: the period shown is the closest to that requested.

Tuesday, 5 July

Kina Holdings Ltd

Keith Stainton (Sudbury and Woodbridge) asked the Secretary of State for Trade when he anticipated that the Company Acts inquiry into Kina Holdings Ltd of Hadleigh, Suffolk, and subsidiary and associated companies would be published; and if he would ensure that this encompassed bankers, brokers, accountants, auditors and solicitors.

Mr Clinton Davis said that the inspectors were reaching the concluding stages of their inquiry and he hoped to receive their report before the end of this year. After the report was received, consideration would be given to publication. The inspectors would deal with such matters as were appropriate and relevant in their report.

Mr Stainton then went on to ask for an estimate of the cost of the Companies Acts inquiry into the affairs of Kina Holdings Ltd, of Hadleigh, Suffolk, and subsidiary and associated companies; and how this compared with the subscribed capital of that company or companies.

Mr Clinton Davis said that £116,799 had been paid to date to the two inspectors. It was not possible to say what further costs would be incurred in completing the inquiry. The issued and paid up capital of the company was £192,500.

Creditors meetings

Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon) asked in what circumstances a liquidator of a company might call a general meeting of creditors without individually notifying each of those creditors, or taking reasonable steps to ensure that such creditors knew of the meeting; and if he was satisfied with the existing provisions of legislation on this matter.

Mr Clinton Davis said that subject to any direction by the court in a compulsory winding-up, and in a creditors voluntary winding-up, a liquidator was required to summon general meetings of creditors by notice in the *London Gazette* and a local paper and to send notice by post to every person appearing by the company's books to be a creditor. Notice of a final meeting of creditors in a voluntary winding-up was required to be given only in the *London Gazette*. The relevant provisions of present legislation appeared to operate satisfactorily, but perhaps the hon member would let him know of any particular difficulty he had in mind. The Insolvency Law Review Committee set up by the secretary of state was carrying out a wide-ranging review of all aspects of insolvency law.

Company returns

John Gorst (Barnet, Hendon North) asked how many companies were two years late in filing their company returns; and against how many of them legal proceedings had been instituted.

Mr Clinton Davis said that complete information in the precise form requested was not readily available and could be obtained only at disproportionate cost. Nevertheless in mid-March of this year over 71 000 returns relating to 1975 (14 per cent of the total) had not been lodged; for 1976 the corresponding figures had been about 156 000 and 31 per cent, respectively. All cases in which companies were in default on the filing of annual returns were considered for possible prosecution; some 2500 prosecutions were initiated in 1975 and 4500 in 1976.

British Steel Corporation

Audrey Wise (Coventry South West) asked the Secretary of State for Industry how many British Steel Corporation plants were at present being occupied by their workers; and which they were. She also asked why the British Steel Corporation was closing a factory at Greenwich which had been opened only three years ago and if he would make a statement.

Leslie Huckfield said one, namely the Greenwich Centre of Reinforcement Steel Services, a division of the British Steel Service Centres Group, was at present being occupied by its workers.

British Steel Corporation had explained that the closure at Greenwich was entirely due to a very large reduction in demand for reinforcing steel in the area which the plant at East Greenwich had been specifically designed to service.

Ministers

Department of Industry

Secretary of State: Eric Varley
Ministers of State: Alan Williams
Gerald Kaufman
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Robert Cryer
Leslie Huckfield

Department of Trade

Secretary of State: Edmund Dell
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Michael Meacher
Stanley Clinton Davis

Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State: Roy Hattersley
Minister of State: John Fraser
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

Machine tool industry scheme

Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked the Secretary of State for Industry whether he proposed to reduce the limit of £20 million set on the machine tool industry scheme in August 1975 in view of the fact that only £6 million of assistance had so far been taken up in spite of attempts to attract applicants and improve the terms of the scheme.

Mr Cryer said that he did not propose to reduce the limit. Assistance of £8 million had now been approved under the Machine Tool Industry Scheme and applications were under consideration which involved potential assistance of a further £15 million. New applications were still being received; the closing date for application was 31 December 1977.

Small firm's exemption

John Farr (Harborough) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would raise, from 20 to 30, the number of employees in a firm below which exemption was granted from completing form PA 922 under the provisions of section 2 of the Statistics of Trade Act 1947.

Mr Huckfield replied that it was necessary to continue to collect information in the annual census of production from firms employing 20 or more persons to meet obligatory statistical requirements of the European Economic Communities.

He had himself visited the statistical office of the European communities to discuss the extent of these statistical requirements.

Regional development schemes

Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what representations he had received from member states or other organisations in the EEC suggesting that any of the regional development schemes operating in the United Kingdom were sources of unfair competition.

Mr Cryer pointed out that state aids which might distort competition were the subject of provisions in the treaty of Rome. He had had no representations to the effect that the UK's regional aids were unfair. All the UK's systems of regional aid had been notified to the commission.

Concorde noise

David Penhaligon (Truro) asked by what means the waiver of noise controls for Concorde had been effected.

Mr Clinton Davis replied that under the notice to airmen – United Kingdom no. 45/1976 Concorde had been exempted from the noise limits applying to jet aircraft at Heathrow which were prescribed by the secretary of state under the powers conferred on him by section 29(1) of the Civil Aviation Act 1971.

Closure at Greenwich

Mrs Audrey Wise (Coventry South West) asked the Secretary of State for Industry whether he had any plans for replacing the jobs being lost by the intended closure of the British Steel Corporation plant at Greenwich.

Mr Cryer promised that the Manpower Services Agency would do everything possible to help those made redundant. Qualifying firms in Greenwich stood to benefit from the various schemes of assistance to promote investment in individual industries as well as from the selective investment scheme. Schemes to be assisted under the policies for inner cities outlined in Cmnd 6845 might also provide jobs for the people concerned.

Wednesday, 6 July

Industrial development certificates

David Knox (Leek) asked how many applications for industrial development certificates had been withdrawn refused or granted in the United Kingdom in each of the past three years. He also asked how many applications for industrial development certificates had been refused for the Leek parliamentary constituency in each of the past six years.

Mr Cryer said the table below showed the number of industrial development certificates granted and refused for the years 1971-76, and for the first five months of this year, for schemes of 15 000 sq ft and over in Great Britain. The control did not operate in Northern Ireland.

Year	Granted	Refused
1971	1 254	55
1972	1 490	41
1973	1 772	73
1974	1 246	57
1975	860	16
1976	1 062	5
1977 (January-May)	482	4

The number of industrial development certificates refused in England in each of the above years was the same as the number refused in Great Britain. Statistics were not available in respect of applications withdrawn. Since July 1972, IDCs had not been required in the Development and Special Development Areas. Following the designation of the Edinburgh and Cardiff Areas in August 1974, the IDC control had ceased to apply in those areas.

Statistics for industrial development certificates were not available in respect of parliamentary constituencies. In the employment office areas of Biddulph, Cheadle, Leek and Kidsgrove, which approximated to the parliamentary constituency of Leek, no industrial development certificates had been refused during the past six years.

IDCs in Bristol

Terry Walker (Kingswood) asked how many applications for industrial development certificates had been refused in the Bristol area over the last six years; and if he could have a list of them.

Mr Cryer said only three applications for industrial development certificates had been refused in the Bristol area since 1971, one in each of the years 1971, 1975 and 1976. Applications for industrial development certificates were normally made to the department in confidence and information concerning the applications, including the applicants' names, could not be disclosed.

British lamps

Roderick MacFarquhar (Belper) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, if, in view of the fact that British lamp manufacturers had adopted undesirably low standards of durability and reliability for their products, as illustrated in an article entitled 'Throwing light on planned obsolescence' in the New Scientist *on 2 June 1977, he would refer to the Director-General of Fair Trading the matter of the quality and reliability of British-made lamps.*

Mr Fraser declined to accept that British manufacturers of discharge lamps had adopted undesirably low standards of durability and reliability for their products.

Industry assistance

Michael Grylls (North West Surrey) asked how many applications had been received under the clothing industry scheme, the poultry meat processing scheme, the textile machinery industry scheme, the paper and board industry scheme, the printing machinery industry scheme, the machine tool industry scheme, the ferrous foundry industry scheme, and the non-ferrous foundry industry scheme; what were the total amounts of assistance offered since the commencement of the schemes; and how many applications had been rejected.

Mr Cryer and Mr Kaufman gave the following information.

Clothing industry scheme: by 24 June 1977, 346 applications for assistance had been received; £2,117,000 had been offered towards the costs of approved projects; and 45 applications had been rejected.

Poultrymeat processing scheme: 124 applications had been received. The total amount of assistance offered since the commencement of the scheme was £2,597,306 and the number of applications rejected was four.

Textile machinery industry scheme: 21 applications had been received, of which two had been withdrawn or rejected. The total amount of assistance offered to date was £47,000.

Paper and board industry scheme: by 4 July, 43 applications had been received. Assistance totalling £5.56 million had been offered since the commencement of the scheme. Two applications had been rejected.

Printing machinery industry scheme: 23 applications had been received, of which three had been withdrawn or rejected. The total amount of assistance offered to date was £677,000.

Machine tool industry scheme: 226 applications had been received, of which 19 had been withdrawn or rejected. The total amount of assistance offered to date was £6,224,000.

Ferrous foundry industry scheme: 513 applications had been received; £35.86 million had been offered in assistance; and 21 applications had been rejected.

Mr Cryer then said that under the non-ferrous foundry industry scheme 52 applications had been received to date since this scheme was announced on 24 January. Applications were being processed and no offers of assistance had yet been made. Five applications had been rejected as being ineligible under the terms of the scheme.

Scotch whisky exports to Australia

George Reid (Clackmannan and East Stirlingshire) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, if he would list in the Official Report the exports of Scotch whisky to Australia, by value and volume, and by bottle and bulk, for each of the last five years.

Mr Meacher replied that exports of Scotch and Northern Irish whisky (which were not shown separately in the overseas trade statistics) to Australia had been as follows:

	Bulk		Bottled	
	Thousand proof gallons	£ million fob	Thousand proof gallons	£ million fob
1972	1 316	3.5	428	1.5
1973	1 819	4.5	439	1.7
1974	1 818	5.6	494	2.2
1975	1 829	6.8	494	2.5
1976	2 021	6.9	356	2.4

Thursday, 7 July

Unilateral actions by members of the EEC

Iain Sproat (Aberdeen South) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, if he would list any unilateral actions taken by any member of the EEC since 1 January 1973 in areas for which his department was responsible for negotiating on behalf of the United Kingdom, following inability of all EEC members to agree on common action.

Mr Hattersley pointed out that his department maintained no systematic record of unilateral actions which might have been taken by member states in default of community agreement. In the absence of agreement to a common community policy on a particular issue, Member States remained free to adopt their own national measures, provided these were consistent with the treaties and any community legislation or rule.

Lord Ryder

Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington) asked the Secretary of State for Industry if he would make a statement on the resignation of Lord Ryder and on his replacement as head of the NEB.

Mr Huckfield said: Lord Ryder would retire from the chairmanship of the NEB on 1 August 1977, having held the post, and previously the chairmanship of the organising committee, for over two years. His successor would be Leslie Murphy, currently deputy chairman of the board.

Expenditure on R and D

David Howell (Guildford) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, whether, further to the article in Trade and Industry, *24 June on page 638, he could publish estimates of the ratio of expenditure on research and development to value added in private industry and on trends in the proportion of the labour force employed on such work for the period since 1966.*

Mr Huckfield said these ratios were not available for private industry as a whole but approximate ratios could be derived for manufacturing industry and those available were given below:

	Intra-mural expenditure on R and D as a percentage of value added before providing for depreciation but after providing for stock appreciation	Employment on R and D as a percentage of total employees in employment
1966	4.8	n/a
1967	4.9	2.4
1968	4.9	2.4
1969	4.8	2.3
1972	4.4	2.1
1975	4.4	2 2

Central transport consultative committee

Norman Fowler (Sutton Coldfield) asked for the remuneration paid to the chairman of the Central Transport Consultative Committee; and whether there were any plans to increase it. He also asked from what date chairmen of regional transport users' consultative committees had been paid; and whether there were any plans to increase such payments. He also asked for a list of the names of the chairmen of the 11 regional committees.

Mr Hattersley said the chairman of the Central Transport Consultative Committee was paid £1,250 per annum and the chairmen of the Area Transport Users' Consultative Committees were paid £1,000 per annum. These salaries had been paid since 1 August 1974. The Government was considering the remuneration of chairmen and members of public boards but he could make no statement at the moment.

Mr Hattersley then gave the following information:

Chairman	Committee	Date of appointment
S. A. Campbell, FHA, ACIS	East Midlands	1 Dec 1971
Dr T. F. Carbery, MSc(Econ), PhD, DPA	Scotland	1 Nov 1976
L. A. Carey, OBE, FCIT	East Anglia	1 Mar 1963
W. V. Golding, MCIT	North East	1 Mar 1972
G. H. Harris, FCIS	London	1 Nov 1972
P. J. Kenyon, BDS	North West	1 Jul 1977
M. D. D. Newitt, BA, PhD	South West	1 Jun 1975
L. V. Pike, MBE, JP	West Midlands	1 Feb 1969
W. J. Price, MCIT	Yorkshire	1 Jun 1970
C. L. Ricketts	Wales	1 Mar 1968
D. Wiggins MA	South East	1 Nov 1976

Noise levels of civil aircraft

David Penhaligon (Truro) asked for a list of the controls in force which had legal effect relating to noise levels of civil aircraft in the United Kingdom.

Mr Clinton Davis explained that controls on the noise emission levels of civil aircraft operating at United Kingdom airports were imposed under the Air Navigation (Noise Certification) Order 1970,

as amended. Operational noise limits at Heathrow and Gatwick airports were set under the powers given the Secretary of State in Section 29 of the Civil Aviation Act 1971.

Motor manufacture

David Knox (Leek): asked how many motor cars had been manufactured in the United Kingdom in each of the past 10 years; and how many of these had been exported in each of those years.

Leslie Huckfield gave the following information:

Thousands

	Number of weeks (2)	Total cars produced in the United Kingdom	– of which produced for export (1)
1967	52	1 552	564
1968	52	1 816	803
1969	53	1 717	824
1970	52	1 641	723
1971	52	1 742	714
1972	52	1 921	613
1973	52	1 747	605
1974	52	1 534	596
1975	52	1 268	532
1976	53	1 333	565

(1) These figures may differ from actual exports as recorded in the Overseas Trade Statistics because of differences in timing and coverage.

(2) The monthly production figures on which the above table is based are reported not in terms of calendar months but in terms of four to five week working periods. As the actual number of weeks in the calendar year is a little over 52, most of the annual figures are based on 52 weeks but occasional ones on 53. Hence, for example, to compare the rate of output in 1976 with that in 1975 weekly averages should be taken.

Motor-cycle manufacture

Terry Walker (Kingswood) asked how many motor-cycles had been manufactured in the United Kingdom in each of the past 10 years; and how many had been exported in each year.

Mr Cryer said between 1967 and 1970 figures of production had been collected and published by the Department of Industry. The figures were as follows:

	Thousand motor cycles
1967	94.8
1968	84.0
1969	71.2
1970	69.8

In 1971 the inquiry into production had been replaced by a new inquiry into sales. The figures were:

	Thousand motor cycles
1971	82.5
1972	44.1
1973	not published*
1974	not published*
1975	not published*
1976	12.2

* In the years 1973 to 1975 figures had not been published, although they had been collected, because publication would have disclosed details of an undertaking which had not given permission to publish. Such permission was required under the Statistics of Trade Act 1947.

Exports of motor cycles in each of the last 10 years had been as follows:

	Exports of motor cycles (thousands)
1967	54.8
1968	64.9
1969	59.8
1970	56.2
1971	47.2
1972	45.6
1973	49.6
1974	23.2
1975	21.5
1976	14.8

Wholesale price index and export price

Bryan Gould (Southampton, Test) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what was the estimated average time-lag between the contract basis on which the wholesale price index for manufacturers was based and the delivered fob basis on which export prices were based and actually recorded.

Mr Meacher explained that on the basis of information collected in a survey amongst firms in the mechanical, electrical and instrument engineering industries, it was estimated that, for these industries, in October 1975, there had been an average time-lag of about three months between a price used in the construction of the wholesale price index (which was based on home sales only) and a corresponding export price derived from the overseas trade statistics. The estimate was based on the survey information on time-lags between order and shipment, which averaged about six months, and on methods of pricing. There was, however, substantial variation in these time-lags for the different products in these industries; further, the average time-lag was likely to vary with the economic cycle. Details of the survey were given in an article 'Improvements to the engineering series for the index of industrial production' which appeared in May 1977 issue of *Economic Trends*'. No information had been collected for other manufacturing industries. In general, however, the time-lags might be expected to be shorter.

Official appointments

Philip Holland (Carlton) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, how many individuals other than civil servants had been appointed to bodies other than departmental committees since February 1974; and if he would list in the Official Report the names of the individuals and the bodies to which they had been appointed.

Mr Meacher said 30 salaried appointments had been made since February 1974 including nine in the last 12 months to those bodies other than departmental committees.

The names of the individuals concerned in the British Airports Authority, the British Airways Board and the Civil Aviation Authority were included in the white paper 'List of Boards of a Commercial Character as at 1 April 1977' (Cmnd 6803).

Since compilation of the white paper the following appointments to these boards have been made:

British Airports Authority: Mr J. Mulkern.

Other salaried appointments made in the relevant periods were as follows:

British Tourist Authority: I. Harrington and Lord Garnock.

Cinematograph Films Council: W. A. Grant.

English Tourist Board: Mrs A. Yates, S. Royle, Sir Frank Price* and C. Bond*.

National Film Finance Corporation: G. Williams* and Miss F. Green*.

It would be disproportionately costly to list the unpaid appointments which had been made.

*Appointed during the last 12 months.

Mr Holland then asked the Secretary of State for Industry, how many individuals other than civil servants had been appointed by him to bodies other than departmental committees since February 1974; and if he would list in the Official Report the names of the individuals and the bodies to which they had been appointed.

Leslie Huckfield said that 60 salaried appointments had been made since February 1974 including 26 in the last 12 months to those bodies other than departmental committees for which the Secretary of State for Industry was responsible. The names of the individuals concerned in British Aerospace, British Steel Corporation, Cable and Wireless Ltd, the National Enterprise Board and the Post Office were included in the white paper 'List of public boards of a commercial character as at 1 April 1977' (Cmnd 6803).

Since compilation of the white paper, the secretary of state had made the following appointments to these boards and to British Shipbuilders:

British Shipbuilders: Admiral Sir Anthony Griffin, K. J. Griffin, M. B. Casey, F. A. Baker, L. Gregory, J. P. Hepplewhite and T. McIver.

Cable and Wireless Ltd: J. L. W. Bird.

Post Office: S. Wainwright.

Other salaried appointments made in the relevant periods were as follows:

English Industrial Estates Corporation: J. S. Heaton, J. Harle, and J. Eccles.

National Computing Centre Ltd: D. Firnberg and Professor J. H. H. Merriman*.

National Research Development Corporation: W. Makinson, F. J. M. Laver, L. V. D. Tindale, Sir Peter Matthews, C. Jenkins, Professor A. W. Johnson, Professor L. Maunder* and J. Gormley*.

A list including unpaid appointments could be compiled only at disproportionate cost.

*Appointed during the last 12 months.

British Leyland

Greville Janner (Leicester West) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, whether he now intended to publish the report which he had received on the trading practices of British Leyland.

Mr Varley replied that he had received advice from the Director of Public Prosecutions that publication of this report would be seriously prejudicial to the criminal proceedings against Graham Barton; and the Attorney General had confirmed that this was also his view. He had accepted this advice.

Friday, 8 July

EEC: inducements to employ local labour

Richard Body (Holland with Boston) asked whether the government would propose that the EEC should harmonise the laws and regulations that existed within the member-states concerning grants, subsidies and other financial inducements that were available for firms to establish businesses which were expected to employ local labour.

Mr Williams said there would be no such proposal. The Commission of the European Communities, in accordance with article 93 of the Treaty of Rome, kept member-states' aids and subsidies under review, so as to ensure that they were compatible with the common market.

Government factories in special development areas

Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked what criteria would be applied in deciding whether to allow a rent-free period of up to five years to some occupiers of government factories in special development areas.

Mr Cryer said the new concession would be used flexibly taking into account, inter alia, any other assistance offered under the Industry Act 1972. The main criterion to be satisfied was the applicant's ability to show the potential to create new employment in viable ventures new to those areas. But all aspects of the application, including the difficulties likely to be encountered in establishing a new undertaking, would be taken into account in determining the appropriate level of rent relief. Firms already in the SDAs and meeting those criteria would be eligible for consideration.

Industrial Development Advisory Board

Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked how much public money had been loaned by the government to companies which did not justify assistance in the opinion of the Industrial Development Advisory Board; how much had been repaid to the government of those loans; and how much had been written off because of the subsequent insolvency of the companies assisted.

Mr Cryer said there had been four cases involving loans of public money where the government had concluded that the balance of factors favoured assistance being provided and when the Industrial Development Advisory Board had taken a different view. The details were as follows:

£ million

Company	Loan	Position to date
Meriden Motorcycle Co-operative	4.2	Loan not yet due for repayment. One payment of interest of £128,000 has been made
Penrad	0.3	Company in receivership but loan not written off
Bear Brand	0.35	Company went into receivership but loan not written off
Scottish News Enterprises	1.2	Company in liquidation £559,000 has been received from the liquidator to date

European community news

Broad measure of agreement on social fund

EEC social affairs ministers agreed to maintain the present structure of the European social fund, under which assistance may be given towards vocational training and resettlement operations under two main headings, at their meeting in Luxembourg on 28 June (see *Trade and Industry* 8 July, page 23).

John Grant, Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Employment, who represented the UK at the meeting, explained this point in answer to a question in the Commons on 5 July.

Mr Grant said that the two headings were article 5, under which the European commission might grant assistance, mainly in regions suffering from structural unemployment and to help the resettlement in employment of disabled people; and article 4, under which the council decided on schemes for particular industrial sectors or groups of people.

At present, Mr Grant explained, there were article 4 schemes for workers leaving agriculture and in or leaving textile and clothing industries, unemployed young people, migrants and disabled people.

It was agreed, he said, that after the end of this year assistance for operations for disabled people would be concentrated under article 5, and the article 4 scheme would be discontinued; this change would not reduce the scope of social fund assistance for them. The council, taking account of the views of the European council in Rome in March, had requested the commission to submit proposals for a new scheme under article 4 for the benefit of women.

It was further agreed that the amount of aid from the fund for operations in regions with particularly severe employment difficulties would be raised by 10 per cent. These regions were to be defined later by the council on a proposal from the commission which could be expected later this year.

It had been agreed that the aim should be to concentrate fund intervention on the areas of greatest need and the commission had undertaken to explore the best means of doing so.

The agreement had been reached on the basis that further detailed examination would take place of the provisions necessary to give effect to the decisions of the council and to make changes in administrative procedures which were generally agreed to be necessary. It was subject to a final confirmation at a future council of ministers (social affairs). In addition, the conciliation procedure involving the European parliament was likely to be needed. The way should then be clear for the fund to play its part more effectively in dealing with problems of unemployment in the community today.

EIB loan for Scotland . . .

A loan equivalent to £4.1 million (6.2 million units of account) has been provided by the European Investment Bank to help to meet the cost of improving electricity supplies in the north-west and north of Scotland.

The loan has been granted to the North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board for a term of 15 years at an interest rate of 8.95 per cent.

The project, which is estimated to cost about £10 million, concerns: the reinforcement of the existing transmission system on and between the Isle of Skye and the neighbouring mainland area around the Kyle of Lochalsh; and the introduction of the first mains electricity supply to the Orkney Islands of Hoy, Flotta and Graemsay, including additional generating capacity of Flotta.

The NSHEB scheme will help to assure adequate electricity supplies to meet any development of economic activity, of the tourist industry in particular.

. . . and finance for project in Togo

Under the terms of the Lomé convention, the European Investment Bank has made available funds totalling 5.4 million units of account (mua) (approximately CFA F 1 500 million) to help to finance a palm oil mill and oil storage installations in Togo.

The funds consist of a loan from the EIB's own resources for 2.33 mua to Société Nationale pour le Développement de la Palmeraie et des Huileries (Sonaph) and a conditional loan for 3.07 mua to the Togolese government to part-finance an increase in Sonaph's capital.

The loan from the EIB's own resources is for 15 years at an interest rate of 5.85 per cent p.a., after allowing for a 3 per cent interest subsidy met by the European development fund as provided for under the Lomé convention.

The EIB is acting as agent for the EEC in granting the conditional loan which is drawn from a total sum of 95 mua set aside under the convention for various types of risk capital operations to be handled by the bank. This loan has been granted for 20 years at a rate of interest of 2 per cent p.a.

The Republic of Togo will also provide supporting finance for the project to the extent of CFA F 300 million (about 1.07 mua). The total cost of the venture is put at CFA F 2 130 million (some 7.60 mua).

The funds will go towards constructing an oil mill with a capacity for processing 20 tons of fruit an hour at Agou in the plateau region and oil storage installations at the port of Lomé.

Second reading on European elections bill

The second reading of the European assembly elections bill took place on 6 and 7 July. At the close of the two-day debate the bill was agreed by 394 votes to 147. The bill provides for the regional list system as the method of election, but allows the Commons to substitute the simple majority system (see *Trade and Industry* 1 July page 672).

Importance of Channel tunnel recognised

The commission has not ceased to recognise the interest of the Channel tunnel project for the community, commissioner Richard Burke told the European parliament during a debate on transport infrastructure on 4 July. He pointed out that it should be remembered that until the present time it had not been possible to take any action on this question, except within the framework of the consultation procedure initiated by the council in 1976.

This procedure, Mr Burke pointed out, could only be put into effect after notification by the interested governments of the project in question. No initiative had been taken by the governments concerned since the abandonment of the Channel tunnel project by the British government.

A solution to this problem should be sought within the framework of the committee for transport infrastructure which had been proposed by the commission, he said. This committee would not only serve as a basis for consultation with member states on requests for financial aid, but would also be able to make a detailed examination of any question relative to the development of

a community network of transport links.

Mr Burke recalled that the commission had recognised the importance of the Channel tunnel project by organising the consultation meeting immediately, in February 1973, when the project was notified. He pointed to the expression of regret by the commission on the occasion of the abandonment of the project.

With regard to the difficulties of the project, he reminded the parliament that 1973 costings were estimated at 2.03 billion units of account. He said that he supposed a conservative estimate now would be that the cost would be somewhere in excess of 3 billion units of account.

EEC-Spain agreement extended to UK, Denmark and Ireland

On 1 July the UK took the final step in adopting the EEC's common customs tariff for industrial goods and most agricultural goods. (See *Trade and Industry* 1 July, page 672). On the same date, the provisions of the 1970 EEC-Spain agreement relating to tariffs on trade in these goods also became effective for the UK. It is expected that an exchange of letters between the community and Spain will take place shortly setting out various adjustments which will need to be made to the working of the agreement following its extension to cover the three new member states. Details of these changes will be published in *Trade and Industry* when they become known.

Imports from Spain

Imports from Spain of most industrial goods are now subject to customs duties at 40 per cent of the common customs tariff (CCT). In the case of certain cotton fabrics (tariff heading 55.09) and certain refined petroleum products, this concession will be granted only within the limits of community tariff quotas. For some sensitive products – notably certain textiles and footwear – duties are reduced only to 60 per cent of the CCT or not at all. There are no duty reductions on European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) products. For certain agricultural products (mainly fruit and vegetables) the agreement provides for tariff preferences of between 25 per cent and 60 per cent. In some cases, notably sherry, these preferences are granted within the limits of tariff quotas.

Exports to Spain

UK exports to Spain will now receive identical tariff treatment as exports from the six original member states of the EEC. This means that over half of UK exports, including most exports of industrial goods, now obtain a 25 per cent reduction on the current Spanish customs duties. Most other exports will obtain a 60 per cent reduction; the remainder (covering about 16 per cent of UK exports) receive no concession.

Other provisions

The agreement includes provisions on dumping and discriminatory practices, and on protective measures which may be taken by either the community or Spain in the event of serious disturbance to a sector of the economy.

Rules of origin

A protocol annexed to the agreement defines 'originating products' as goods either 'wholly obtained', or goods having undergone 'sufficient working or processing' within the community or Spain.

Normally 'working or processing' is considered sufficient when, as a result of the working or processing the finished product is classified under a different four figure tariff heading from any non-originating materials and parts used. This is known as the change of tariff heading rule.

There are however exceptions to this rule, which are specified in lists A and B to the protocol. List A specifies products which in addition to the 'change of tariff heading' rule, have also to meet other requirements. List B provides that the products listed need not meet the change of tariff heading rule but must satisfy other requirements.

The origin rules must be satisfied if preferential rates are claimed. The agreement rules do not cover certain petroleum products set out in list C of the protocol defining originating products; for these products the national origin rules of the EEC member states or Spain apply.

The origin rules described in the protocol are reproduced in full as appendices to Customs Notice No 816.

Documentation and procedures

Evidence of originating status will be given by a movement certificate issued by the customs authorities in the exporting country. the certificates specified under the agreement for trade between the 'Six' and Spain are forms AE1 and AE2. However, since stocks of these forms are not available in the UK, Denmark or Ireland, Spain has agreed to accept from UK exporters the documents now in use for most other community agreements – that is movement certificate EUR 1, and for postal consignments not exceeding 1000 units of account in value (£649), form EUR 2. Supplies of movement certificates EUR 1 and Forms EUR 2 can be obtained from local offices of the Customs and Excise.

Information on export procedures to be followed can be found in part VI of Customs Notice no 816, and import procedures in Customs Notice no 826.

Inquiries

Inquiries arising from this article should be addressed to the Department of Trade, Commercial Relations and Exports Division 1, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1, tel. 01-215 3472 (General); or General Division, 3 Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1, tel. 01-215 5527 (UK tariffs on imports from Spain), tel. 01-215 5750 (origin rules), tel. 01-215 5490 (tariff quotas); Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section, Export Data Branch, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 461 (import duties, taxes etc on exports to Spain); or HM Customs and Excise: Exports – International Division E, Branch 4, Adelaide House, London Bridge London EC4, tel. 01-626 1515 ext. 2385; Imports – International Division E, Branch 2, Adelaide House, London Bridge, London EC4, tel. 01-626 1515 ext. 2310.

More community news

Information on European community matters and about member states can often be found in other sections of *Trade and Industry*. For this week's additional news, turn to the following pages:

New publications

Approach to EEC banking 57
World food problem 57

Technology news

Solar energy research 60

Parliament

Trade with European community 61
Small firm's exemption 61
Regional development schemes 61
Unilateral actions by members of the EEC 62
EEC: inducements to employ local labour 63

Overseas trade news

Dell calls for action to reduce economic tension 75
Anti-dumping duty on Japanese steel sections 75
THE edition of French electrical installations standard 77

Market report

Northern France 78

Exhibitions

Munich: laser exhibition 80
Paris: heating, refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment 80
Brussels: construction equipment 80

Country data

Republic of Ireland 86
United States: special steels quotas 87

Four council meetings planned for July

Four meetings of the council of ministers are planned for July, the first month of the Belgian presidency of the council.

Frank Judd, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office making a statement about business to be taken by the council in the Commons on 4 July, said that at the first meeting on 18 July finance ministers would have their second quarterly examination of the economic situation in the community.

Agriculture ministers meeting on 18 and 19 July would be considering fisheries matters, together with proposals for a potato régime, the labelling of milk products and aid for producer groups.

At the budget council on 20 July ministers would establish the draft community budget for 1978.

Foreign affairs ministers who were scheduled to meet on 25 and 26 July or possibly only on 26 July would discuss the outcome of the European council on 29 and 30 June, relations with Spain, Cyprus and Malta, the accession negotiations with Greece and possibly fisheries matters.

New legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* as indicated against each item. The *Official Journal* is now published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other member states' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 7174/482/408. Other information may be obtained from the reference point given at the end of the item.

Common agricultural policy

The texts of the following regulations which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities.*

Oils, fats and oilseeds. Regulation (EEC) 1382/77 amending regulation (EEC) 282/67/ EEC on detailed rules for intervention for oil seeds (*Official Journal* L157, 28 June 1977).

Regulation (EEC) 1401/77 laying down detailed rules for the importation of olive oil originating in Turkey (*Official Journal* L158, 29 June 1977).

Cattle, beef and veal. Regulation (EEC) 1384/77 amending regulations (EEC) 585/77, (EEC) 597/77 and (EEC) 612/77 in respect of the application of certain special import arrangements for beef and veal (*Official Journal* L157, 28 June 1977).

Regulation (EEC) 1462/77 fixing the amounts by which import charges on beef and veal originating in the African, Caribbean and Pacific states are to be reduced (*Official Journal* L161, 1 July 1977).

Regulation (EEC) 1463/77 fixing the quantities of frozen beef intended for processing which may be imported under special terms in the third quarter of 1977 (*Official Journal* L161, 1 July 1977).

Wine. Regulation (EEC) 1425/77 amending regulation (EEC) 2964/76 fixing the free-at-frontier reference prices applicable to wine imports from 16 December 1976 (*Official Journal* L160, 30 June 1977).

Corrigendum. The *Official Journal* L157, 28 June 1977 contains the following correction to regulation (EEC) 1054/77 (published in *Official Journal* L130, 25 May 1977) amending regulation (EEC) 1608/76 laying down detailed rules for the description and presentation of wines and grape must:

Page 6, the second indent of article 1 (11) (d):

for: *'Sauterne',*
'Saint-Croix-du-Mont',
'Montbazillac',
'Graves supériéurs'.

read: *'Sauternes',*
'Sainte-Croix-du-Mont',
'Monbazillac',
'Graves superiéures'.

Cereals. Regulation (EEC) 1386/77 amending regulation (EEC) 2727/75 on the common organisation of the market in cereals (*Official Journal* L158, 29 June 1977).

Processed agricultural products. Regulation (EEC) 1387/77 extending the validity of regulation (EEC) 1267/69 laying down special provisions applicable to imports into the community from Greece of goods coming under regulation (EEC) 1059/69 (*Official Journal* L158, 29 June 1977).

Milk and milk products. Regulation (EEC) 1402/77 amending regulation (EEC) 1089/77 on detailed rules of application for granting special aid for skimmed milk for use as feed for animals other than young calves (*Official Journal* L158, 29 June 1977).

Fish and fish products. Regulation (EEC) 1417/77 amending regulation (EEC) 350/77 laying down certain interim measures for the conservation and management of fishery resources (*Official Journal* L160, 30 June 1977).

Fruit and vegetables. Regulation (EEC) 1388/77 amending regulation (EEC) 471/76 in respect of the period of suspension of the application of the condition on prices governing the importation into the community of fresh lemons originating in certain Mediterranean countries (*Official Journal* L158, 29 June 1977).

Regulation (EEC) 1389/77 amending regulation (EEC) 471/76 suspending application of the condition on prices governing the importation into the community of fresh lemons originating in various Mediterranean countries (*Official Journal* L158, 29 June 1977).

Regulation (EEC) 1426/77 fixing, for the marketing year 1977/78 the reference prices for apples (*Official Journal* L160, 30 June 1977).

Regulation (EEC) 1427/77 fixing, for the marketing year 1977/78, the reference prices for pears (*Official Journal* L160, 30 June 1977).

Processed fruit and vegetables. Regulation (EEC) 1431/77 amending regulation (EEC) 459/76 establishing a system of minimum prices applicable to the importation of tomato concentrates originating in Greece (*Official Journal* L160, 30 June 1977).

Seeds. Regulation (EEC) 1458/77 fixing, for the 1977/78 marketing year, the reference prices for hybrid maize for sowing (*Official Journal* L161, 1 July 1977).

Regulation (EEC) 1459/77 amending regulation (EEC) 1445/76 specifying the different varieties of Lolium perenne L (*Official Journal* L161, 1 July 1977).

Temporary suspension of the CCT

Trade and Industry of 1 July 1977 (page 675) contained a notice advising that the EEC council had adopted two regulations providing for suspension of the common customs tariff (CCT) on certain agricultural and industrial products. The texts of these regulations have now been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities.*

Regulation (EEC) 1345/77 temporarily suspending the autonomous common customs tariff duties on certain industrial products (*Official Journal* L155, 24 June 1977).

Regulation (EEC) 1379/77 temporarily suspending the autonomous common customs tariff duties on a number of agricultural products (*Official Journal* L157, 28 June 1977).

New EEC documents

This list of EEC documents was deposited in the House of Commons during the week ended 6 July. (Commission reference numbers, where appropriate, are given in parentheses). The documents are available for consultation at the European Communities Commission Information Office, 20 Kensington Palace Gardens, London W8 4QQ.

EEC draft instruments

S/1018/77 (COM(77)256)
Proposals for Council Regulations (EEC) opening, allocating and providing for the administration of Community tariff quotas for apricot pulp falling within subheading ex 20.06 BII(c)(1)(aa) of the Common Customs Tariff, originating in Morocco and Tunisia (1978).

R/1547/77 (COM(77)252)
Proposal for a Council Decision authorising prolongation or tacit renewal of certain trade agreements concluded between the Member States and Third countries.

R/1576/77 (COM(77)259)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) amending for the second time Regulation (EEC) No. 1931/76 laying down general rules governing the distillation of wines provided for in Articles 6b, 6c, 24a and 24b, of Regulation (EEC) No. 816/70.

R/1580/77 (COM(77)264)
Food aid – Emergency aid project for the supply to the UNHCR of 10 000 tonnes of cereal (1975, 1976 and 1977 reserve programmes), 1300 tonnes of butteroil (in advance of the 1977 programme) and 160 tonnes of skimmed milk powder (1976 reserve programme) for certain sections of the population in Cyprus.

R/1567/77 (COM(77)272)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) on the opening, allocation and administration of a Community tariff quota for dried grapes in immediate containers of a net capacity of 15 kg or less, falling within subheading 08.04 BI of the Common Customs Tariff (1978).

R/1568/77 (COM(77)266)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) laying down uniform costing principles for railway undertakings.

S/955/77 (COM(77)10)
Proposal for a Council Directive relating to common principles to be adopted in export credit insurance systems for medium and long-term transactions with public and private buyers.

R/1586/77 (COM(77)273)
Proposal for a Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No. 2452/76 on the transfer to the Italian intervention agency of butter held by the intervention agencies of other Member States.

R/1459/77 (COM(77)285)
Proposal for a Council Regulation amending for the second time Regulation (EEC) No. 2453/76 on the transfer to the Italian intervention agency of frozen beef held by the intervention agencies of other Member States.

R/1577/77 (COM(77)291)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) amending Regulation (EEC) No. 522/77 laying down special provisions applicable to trade in tomato concentrates and peeled tomatoes between the Community as originally constituted and the new Member States.

R/1595/77 (COM(77)293)
Recommendation for Council Regulations on the conclusion of the Agreements on the guaranteed prices for cane sugar from the ACP States and the Republic of India fixing the guaranteed prices for cane sugar originating in the OCT for 1977-78.

R/1625/77 (COM(77)288)
Proposal for a Council Regulation (EEC) determining for the 1977-78 marketing year the threshold prices for husked rice and broken rice.

S/1050/77 (COM(77)294)
Recommendations for Council Regulations approving Agreements extending the Interim Agreements between the EEC and Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia, respectively.

Consultative documents

R/883/77 (COM(77)144)
First list of non-automatic carry-overs from the 1976 to the 1977 financial year.

R/1101/77
Introducing the European unit of account into the Staff Regulations of officials and the Conditions of Employment of other servants.

R/1541/77
Preliminary draft general budget of the European Communities for the financial year 1978.

R/1546/77 (COM(77)210)
Communications of the Commission to the Council and to the European Parliament on the state of the Customs Union of the European Economic Community.

R/1324 77 (COM(77)265)
Communication from the Commission to the Council on measures for the prevention, control and reduction of pollution caused by accidental discharges of hydrocarbons into the sea, together with a draft Council Resolution on measures for the prevention, control and reduction of pollution caused by accidental discharges of hydrocarbons into the sea.

R/1606/77 (COM(77(280)
Adjustment of the ECSC administrative budget.

Eliminating technical barriers to trade within the EEC

Below we print the usual quarterly revision of our checklist showing the directives proposed approved, or adopted under article 100 of the treaty of Rome. The last list was published in *Trade and Industry* of 29 April, page 191. A background article on elimination of technical barriers to trade appeared in the August 1974 issue of the *European Community Commentary*.

A word on terminilogy. A preliminary draft is really nothing more than a working document for commission working groups, and may appear in any number of revisions. A commission proposal is the final version of the draft as submitted by the commission to the council of ministers. It too may undergo revision as a result of representations by member states at council meetings, and may even be remitted to the commission for further elaboration.

A directive does not have direct internal effect, but creates obligations on the governments of the member states to ensure that its requirements are strictly and fully implemented, where necessary by national legislation. Once adopted, council directives may be adapted to technical progress by directives issued either, by the commission or if necessary, by the council on a proposal from the commission.

The texts of adopted directives are published in the 'L' (Legislation) series of the *Official Journal of the European Communities*, and the text of commission proposals in the 'C' (Information and Notices) series. Preliminary drafts and council revisions of commission proposals are not published. In the list below, the dates of issue of the *Official Journal* containing texts of adopted and proposed directives are given where they are known. The journal has appeared in English only since 1 January 1973, but the English texts of adopted directives published before then (together with all other pre-accession community legislation) were issued in a series of special editions of the *Official Journal* in December 1972. Asterisks indicate where changes in the status of documents have occurred during the past quarter.

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Motor vehicles		
Type approval	70/156/EEC of 6.2.70	Directive (*OJ* 23.2.70)
	COM(76)721 FINAL	Commission amending proposal (*OJ* 2.2.77)
Rear registration plates	70/222/EEC of 20.3.70	Directive (*OJ* 6.4.70)
Sound level and exhaust system	70/157/EEC of 6.2.70	Directive (*OJ* 23.2.70)
	Adapted to technical progress by 73/350/EEC of 7.11.73	Commission directive (*OJ* 22.11.73)
	COM(74)1175 FINAL	Commission amending proposal. Directive adopted but not yet published
Fuel tanks and rear protective devices	70/221/EEC of 20.3.70	Directive (*OJ* 6.4.70)
	XI/249/75	Preliminary draft for adaptation to technical progress
	XI/260/75 Rev 2	Preliminary draft for further adaptation to technical progress
Audible warning devices	70/388/EEC of 27.7.70	Directive (*OJ* 10.8.70)
Air pollution by gases from positive ignition (spark ignition) engines	70/220/EEC of 20.3.70	Directive (*OJ* 6.4.70)
	Adapted to technical progress by 74/290/EEC of 28.5.74	Directive (*OJ* 15.6.74)
	77/102/EEC of 30.11.76	Commission directive adapting 70/220/EEC to technical progress (*OJ* 3.2.77)
Steering equipment	70/311/EEC of 8.6.70	Directive (*OJ* 18.6.70)
Doors	70/387/EEC of 27.7.70	Directive (*OJ* 10.8.70)
Direction indicator lamps	76/759/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Suppression of radio interference produced by spark ignition engines	72/245/EEC of 20.6.72	Directive (*OJ* 6.7.72)
Installation of lighting and light signalling devices	76/756/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Windscreen-wiper and windscreen-washer systems	COM(76)571 FINAL	Commission proposal
Field of vision	COM(75)619 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* C54 of 8.3.76)
Rear-view mirrors	71/127/EEC of 1.3.71	Directive (*OJ* 22.3.71)
Electrical connections between vehicles and their trailers	COM(68)633 FINAL	Commission proposal withdrawn. Further work in hand
Reverse and speedometer equipment	75/443/EEC of 26.6.75	Directive (*OJ* 26.7.75)
Electrical circuits	Work not started	
Maximum speed (method of determination)	Work not started	
Braking devices	71/320/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (*OJ* 6.9.71)
	Adapted to technical progress by 74/132/EEC of 11.2.74	Commission directive (*OJ* 19.3.74)
	Adapted further to technical progress by 75/524/EEC of 25.7.75	Commission directive (*OJ* 8.9.75) and corrigendum (*OJ* 23.9.75)
Safety glass	COM(72)981 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 16.11.72)
Interior fittings (interior part of the passenger compartment other than interior rear-view mirrors, layout of controls, roof or sliding roof, backrest and rear part of seats)	74/60/EEC of 17.12.73	Directive (*OJ* 11.2.74)
Arrangement of foot controls	XI/341/76	Preliminary draft
Identification of controls tell-tales and indicators	COM(76)571 FINAL	Commission proposal
Tyres	COM(76)712 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.2.77)
Mechanical coupling equipment between vehicles and trailers	XI/14/77	Preliminary draft
Anchorages for safety belts	76/115/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76)
Emission of pollutants by motor vehicles with diesel fuelled (compression ignition) engines	72/306/EEC of 2.8.72	Directive (*OJ* 20.8.72)
External projections	74/483/EEC of 17.9.74	Directive (*OJ* 2.10.74)
Head-restraints of seats	COM(74)2180 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.4.75)
Devices to prevent the unauthorised use	74/61/EEC of 17.12.73	Directive (*OJ* 11.2.74)
Strength of seats and their anchorages	74/408/EEC of 22.7.74	Directive (*OJ* 12.8.74)
Behaviour of the steering mechanism in the event of impact	74/297/EEC of 4.6.74	Directive (*OJ* 20.6.74)
Safety belts and restraint systems	COM(74)2180 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.4.75) (directive approved but not yet formally adopted)
Statutory plates and inscriptions their location and method of attachment	76/114/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76)
Windscreen defrosting and demisting systems	COM(76)571 FINAL	Commission proposal
Interior fittings – seats (other than strength of seats and anchorages)	Work not started	
Special provisions for public transport vehicles	XI/347/76	Preliminary draft
Special provisions for taxis	Work not started	
Special provisions for goods vehicles	XI/1042/76	Preliminary draft
Towing devices*	77/389/EEC of 17.5.77	Directive (*OJ* 13.6.77)
Legs of trailers and semi-trailers	XI/508/73 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
Reflex reflectors	76/757/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Front fog lamps and filament lamps	76/762/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Rear registration plate lamps	76/760/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
End-outline marker lamps, fro . position (side) lamps, rear position (side) lamps, and stop lamps	76/758/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Headlamps	76/761/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Rear fog lamps*		Directives adopted but not yet published
Parking lamps*		
Reversing lamps*		
Hazard warning devices	Work not started	
Springs	Work not started	
Verification of fuel consumption	XI/702/76	Preliminary draft
Heating systems	COM(76)702 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.2.77)
Wheel guards	COM(76)702 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.2.77)
Weights and dimensions	COM(76)701 FINAL	Commission proposal
Tractors and agricultural machinery		
Type approval	74/150/EEC of 4.3.74	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.74)
Maximum design speed and load platforms	74/152/EEC of 4.3.74	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.74)
Certain parts and characteristics	74/151/EEC of 4.3.74	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.74)
Projecting parts	XI/48/74	Preliminary draft following reconsideration of COM(68)565 FINAL
Towable load	COM(68)565 FINAL	Commission proposal referred back for further consideration
Rear-view mirrors	74/346/EEC of 25.6.74	Directive (*OJ* 15.7.74)
Lighting and light signalling devices	COM(74)895 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.9.74)
Steering equipment	75/321/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (*OJ* 9.6.75)
Power connection for lighting and light signalling devices	75/323/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (*OJ* 9.6.75)

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Suppression of radio interference produced by spark-ignition engines	75/322/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (*OJ* 9.6.75)
Driver's seat	XI/604/76	Preliminary draft
Passenger seats	76/763/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Coupling between tractor and trailer	COM(68)565 FINAL	Commission proposal referred back for further consideration
Braking devices	76/432/EEC of 6.4.76	Directive (*OJ* 8.5.76)
Safety glass	XI/299/74	Preliminary draft
Emission of pollutants from diesel engines*		Directive adopted but not yet published
Tyres	Work not yet started	
Power take-off	Work started but no papers yet available	
Field of vision and windscreen wipers	74/347/EEC of 25.6.74	Directive (*OJ* 15.7.74)
Location and attachment of statutory plates and inscriptions	Work started but no papers yet available	
Length, width and unladen height	Work started but no papers yet available	
Maximum authorised weight on each axle and distribution of weight between axles	Work started but no papers yet available	
Maximum vertical load applied to mechanical coupling devices	XI/509/73	Preliminary draft
Speed governor	Work started but no papers yet available	
Reverse gear	Work started but no papers yet available	
Rollover protection structures*		Directive adopted but not yet published
Other means of protection against the weather	Work started but no papers yet available	
Location identification and operation of controls	XI/44/74	Preliminary draft
Coupling hooks (front coupling devices)	Work started but no papers yet available	
Driver-perceived noise level*	77/311/EEC of 29.3.77	Directive (*OJ* 28.4.77)
Metrological		
General directive	71/316/EEC of 26.7.71 72/427/EEC of 19.12.72	Directive (*OJ* 6.9.71) Amending directive (*OJ* 28.12.72)
Clinical mercury-in-glass maximum reading thermometers	76/764/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Medium accuracy bar and cylindrical weights	71/317/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (*OJ* 6.9.71)
Measuring of the standard mass per storage volume of grain	71/347/EEC of 12.10.71	Directive (*OJ* 25.10.71)
Calibration of the tanks of vessels	71/349/EEC of 12.10.71	Directive (*OJ* 25.10.71)
Material measures of length*	73/362/EEC of 19.11.73 III/771/77	Directive (*OJ* 5.12.73) Preliminary draft commission directive adapting 73/369/EEC to technical progress
Non-automatic weighing machines	73/360/EEC of 19.11.73 76/696/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 5.12.73) Commission directive: technical progress adaptation (*OJ* 27.8.76)
Electrical energy meters	76/891/EEC of 4.11.76	Directive (*OJ* 4.12.76)
Meters for liquids other than water	71/319/EEC of 26.7.71	Directive (*OJ* 26.7.71)
Measuring systems for liquids other than water*	77/313/EEC of 5.4.77	Directive (*OJ* 28.4.77)
Ancillary equipment for meters for liquids other than water	71/348/EEC of 12.10.71	Directive (*OJ* 25.10.71)
Gas volume meters	71/318/EEC of 26.7.71 Adapted to technical progress by 74/331/EEC of 12.6.74	Directive (*OJ* 6.9.71) Commission directive (*OJ* 12.7.74)
Making-up by volume of certain pre-packaged liquids	75/106/EEC of 19.12.74 XI/948/76 XI/1082/76	Directive (*OJ* 15.2.75) Draft amending directive Preliminary draft technical progress adaptation
Bottles used as measuring containers	75/107/EEC of 19.12.74	Directive (*OJ* 15.2.75)
Cold water meters	75/33/EEC of 17.12.74	Directive (*OJ* 20.1.75)
Hot water meters*	XI/996/76 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
Thermal energy meters*	III/214/77	Preliminary draft
Road and rail transport tanks for use as measuring containers	COM(74)877 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.9.74)
Taximeters	77/95/EEC of 21.12.76	Directive (*OJ* 31.1.77)
Alcoholmeters and alcohol hydrometers	76/765/EEC of 27.7.76 Corrigenda	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76) (*OJ* 5.3.77)
Alcohol tables	76/766/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Saccharimeters	Work started but no papers yet available	
Continuous totalising weighing machines	75/410/EEC of 24.6.75	Directive (*OJ* 14.7.75)
Instruments for determining the fat content of dairy produce	Work started but no papers yet available	
Metallic manometers	III/1919/72	Preliminary draft in abeyance. Further work in hand

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Apparatus for measuring arterial pressure	Work started but no papers yet available	
Weights of from 1 mg to 50 kg of above medium accuracy	74/148/EEC of 4.3.74	Directive (*OJ* 28.3.74)
Instruments for measuring moisture content of grain	XI/86/74	Preliminary draft
Electronic devices incorporated or associated with measuring instruments*	XI/667/76 Rev 3	Preliminary draft
Units of measurement	71/354/EEC of 18.10.71 76/770/EEC of 27.7.76 Corrigendum to 76/770/EEC	Directive (*OJ* 29.10.71) Amending directive (*OJ* 27.9.76) (*OJ* 14.12.76)
Check-weighing and grading machines	COM(75)573 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 8.3.76)
Making-up by weight or by volume of certain pre-packaged products	76/211/EEC of 20.1.76	Directive (*OJ* 21.2.76 L46)
Differential pressure gasmeters	Work not yet started	
Ranges of nominal quantities permitted for certain pre-packaged products	COM(76)384 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 18.8.76)
Scales of charges for the testing of gasmeters	COM(74)776 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 1.7.74)
Instruments for measuring pollution of air	Work not yet started	
Electrical		
Electrical equipment designed for use within certain voltage limits	73/23/EEC of 19.2.73	Directive (*OJ* 26.3.73)
Electro-medical equipment Medical X-ray equipment	COM(74)2178 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 12.2.75)
Electrical equipment for use in potentially explosive atmospheres (framework directive)	76/117/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76)
Electrical equipment for use in explosive atmospheres (special directive)*	XI/508/75 XI/1119/76 Rev 1 XI/79/77 XI/80/77	Preliminary draft Preliminary draft Amendment Amendment
Radio interference caused by electrical household appliances, portable tools and similar equipment*	76/889/EEC of 4.11.76 Corrigendum	Directive (*OJ* 4.12.76) (*OJ* 28.4.77 L105)
Suppression of radio interference from fluorescent lighting luminaires*	76/890/EEC of 4.11.76 Corrigendum	Directive (*OJ* 4.12.76) (*OJ* 28.4.77 L105)
Suppression of radio interference from radio and television sets	COM(73)569 FINAL	Commission proposal
Suppression of radio interference from industrial, scientific and medical equipment	COM(74)1181 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 6.3.75)
Plugs and sockets	XI/685/76	Preliminary draft withdrawn, revision in preparation
Textiles		
Textile names	71/307/EEC of 26.7.71 75/36/EEC of 17.12.74	Directive (*OJ* 16.8.71) Directive supplementing 71/307/EEC (*OJ* 20.1.75)
Quantitative analysis of binary textile fibre mixtures	72/276/EEC of 17.7.72	Directive (*OJ* 31.7.72)
Quantitative analysis of ternary fibre mixtures	73/44/EEC of 26.2.73	Directive (*OJ* 30.3.73)
Quantitative analysis mixtures of fibres of the same chemical nature	Work started but no papers yet available	
Elimination of foreign matter	Work started but no papers yet available	
Pressure vessels		
General directive	76/767/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Seamless steel gas cylinders	COM(72)1689	Commission proposal
Aerosol dispensers	75/324/EEC of 20.5.75	Directive (*OJ* 9.6.75)
Seamless aluminium alloy gas cylinders	COM(74)966 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.9.74)
Welded unalloyed steel gas cylinders	COM(74)965 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 13.9.74)
Unfired pressure vessels of welded steel	XI/584/75	Preliminary draft
Shell boilers for producing steam or hot water	Work started but no papers yet available	
Dangerous substances and preparations		
Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances	67/548/EEC of 27.6.67 73/146/EEC of 21.5.73 75/409/EEC of 24.6.75 76/907/EEC of 14.7.76 COM(76)433 FINAL	Directive (*OJ* 16.8.67) Amending directive (*OJ* 25.6.73) Amending directive (*OJ* 14.7.75) Commission directive adapting to technical progress 67/548/EEC (*OJ* 30.12.76) Commission amending proposal (*OJ* 5.11.76)
Classification, packaging and labelling of pesticides	COM(74)2193 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 20.2.75)

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Approval and putting into circulation of agricultural pesticides	15.175/VI/69	Preliminary draft
Explosives	13269/III/70	Preliminary draft
Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous preparations (solvents)*	73/173/EEC of 4.6.73 III/Ex. XI/790/76 Rev 4	Directive (*OJ* 11.7.73) Draft amending directive
Classification, packaging and labelling of paints, varnishes, glues and related products	COM(75)311 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 23.7.75)
Dangerous substances and preparations		
Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous products of general use in the home (household preparations)	XI/780/76 XI/1/76 Rev 1	Preliminary draft Preliminary draft
Corrosives	Work started but no papers yet available	
Detergents	73/404/EEC of 22.11.73	Directive (*OJ* 17.12.73)
Methods of testing the biodegradability of anionic surfactants	73/405/EEC of 22.11.73	Directive (*OJ* 17.12.73)
Methods of testing the biodegradability of non-ionic surfactants	XI/315/76	Preliminary draft
Detergents – toxicity	Work in abeyance	
Restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations	76/769/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)
Restrictions on the marketing and use of certain types of asbestos fibre	III/366/77 * (new item)	Preliminary draft
Classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances not covered by original directive 67/548/EEC	III/365/77 * (new item)	Preliminary draft
Lifts and lifting apparatus		
Certification and marking of wire ropes, chains and hooks	73/361/EEC of 19.11.73 76/434/EEC of 13.4.76	Directive (*OJ* 5.12.73) Commission directive (*OJ* 8.5.76) Adapting 73/361/EEC to technical progress
Common provisions for lifting and mechanical handling appliances (General directive)	COM(75)336 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 29.9.75)
Tower cranes for building work	XI/276/76 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
Builders' hoists	XI/882/76 Work started but no papers yet available	Preliminary draft
Conveyor-belts	Work started but no papers yet available	
Electrically operated lifts	COM(75)336 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 29.9.75)
Powered industrial trucks	XI, 768/76	Preliminary draft
Machine tools and machines		
Common provisions for the working of metals, wood, paper and other materials	XI/216/74 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
Grinding wheels and grinding machines	XI/217/74	Preliminary draft
Portable grinding machines	XI/270/75	Preliminary draft (but now agreed to divide into three separate directives – 9/3, 9/4, 9/5)
Fixed grinding machines	Work started but no papers yet available	
Grinding wheels	Work started but no papers yet available	
Woodworking machines	Work started but no papers yet available	
Crystal glass		
Crystal glass	69/493/EEC of 15.12.69	Directive (*OJ* 29.12.69)
Oil pipelines		
Oil pipelines (construction)	COM(68)640 FINAL	Proposal withdrawn (*OJ* 3.2.77 C26)
Precious metals		
Articles made from precious metals	COM(75)607 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 16.1.76)
Gas appliances		
Safety and control devices for appliances using gaseous fuels	COM(74)2179 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 16.6.75)
Instantaneous production of hot water for sanitary purposes	COM(74)2179 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 16.6.75)
Cookers	Work started but no papers yet available	
Central heating boilers	Work started but no papers yet available	
Gas governors	Work started but no papers yet available	
Independent space heaters	Work started but no papers yet available	
Fertilisers		
General directive Sampling and methods of analysis*	76/116/EEC of 18.12.75	Directive (*OJ* 30.1.76) Directive adopted but not yet published

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Marketing of high nitrogen content ammonium nitrate based fertiliser	COM(75)635 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 23.1.76)
Gas pipelines		
Gas pipelines (construction)	18.871/III/69	Preliminary draft thought to be withdrawn with oil pipelines
Fuels		
Problem of the lead content of petrol	COM(73)2050 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 31.1.74)
Sulphur content of certain liquid fuels	75/716/EEC of 24.11.75	Directive (*OJ* 27.11.75)
Use of fuel-oils with the aim of decreasing sulphurous emissions	COM(75)681 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 8.3.76)
Rubber and plastics		
Reinforced plastic tanks for carriage of dangerous substances by road	COM(71)1446 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 15.3.72)
Construction materials		
Cement	Work in abeyance	
Ceramic tiles	Work in abeyance	
Flat glass	XI/437/74	Preliminary draft
PVC pipes	Work in abeyance	
Fire resistance	XI/790/75 Rev 2	Preliminary draft
Water supply equipment	Work was proposed by the tripartite working group but the project was shelved	
Building and civil engineering equipment and machines		
General directive Measurement of the sound level of constructional plant and equipment Permissible sound level for pneumatic concrete-breakers and jackhammers	COM(74)2195 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 14.4.75)
Permissible sound emission level for tower cranes	COM(75)558 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 8.3.76)
Permissible sound level of grass cutting machines	XI/28/75 Rev 1	Preliminary draft
Permissible sound emission level for current generators for welding Permissible sound emission level for current generators for power supply	COM(75)558 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 8.3.76)
Noise emitted by air compressors	ENV/168/77 III/597/77	Preliminary draft Preliminary draft amendment
[Site safety]		
Roll-over protective structures	XI/554/75	Preliminary draft
Falling-object protective structures	XI/555/75	Preliminary draft
Dimensions of operators' cabins	XI/556/75	Preliminary draft
Protecting guards and shields	XI/557/75	Preliminary draft
[Road safety]	Work started but no papers yet received	
Tower cranes: safety aspects	Work started but no papers yet received	
Mopeds		
Type approval	COM(72)1645 FINAL COM(73)1732 FINAL	Commission proposal Commission amending proposal
Engines	Work started but no papers yet received	
Noise	Work started but no papers yet received	
Braking devices	XI/710/75	Preliminary draft
Motor cycles		
Type approval	COM(74)2177 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 20.2.75)
Permissible sound level and exhaust system	COM(75)634 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* C54 of 8.3.76)
Fuel system integrity	XI/567/75	Preliminary draft
Non military arms and ammunition	Work started but no papers yet received	
Firefighting equipment		
Portable fire extinguishers	Work started but no papers yet received	
Metal scaffolding		
Working metal scaffolds	XI/34/76	Preliminary draft suspended sine die
Packaging materials	Work not yet started	
Educational materials	Work not yet started	

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Equipment using ionising rays		
	Work started but no papers yet received	
Protective clothing and equipment		
Protective helmets (industrial)	Work started but no papers yet received	
Safety helmets for motor vehicle drivers and their passengers	XI/227/75	Preliminary draft
Respiratory protective devices	Work started but no papers yet received	
Industrial safety belts and harnesses	Work started but no papers yet received	
Eye protectors	Work started but no papers yet received	
Protective footwear	Work started but no papers yet received	
Boats and their fittings		
Type approval	COM(76)393 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 24.8.76)
Pleasure craft made of reinforced plastic	XI/592/74	Preliminary draft
Cosmetics		
Cosmetic products	76/768/EEC of 27.7.76	Directive (*OJ* 27.9.76)

Subject	Reference of directive or latest draft received	Status (where applicable)
Leaching of substances into foodstuffs		
General directive	76/893/EEC of 23.11.76	Directive (*OJ* 9.12.76)
Materials and objects in glass intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	687/VI/73	Preliminary draft
Materials and objects in stainless steel intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	688/VI/73	Preliminary draft
Materials and objects in ceramics intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	COM(74)2173 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 27.2.75)
Materials and objects in plastics intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	3003/VI/74	Preliminary draft
Materials and articles which contain vinyl chloride monomer and are intended to come into contact with foodstuffs	COM(76)680 FINAL	Commission proposal (*OJ* 21.1.77)
Toys		
Toys safety requirements	XI/288/74	Preliminary draft
Noise in the domestic environment		
	Work started but no papers yet received	

Annual EEC tariff quotas renewed from 1 July

An article in *Trade and Industry*, 21 January, pages 174-77, listed tariff quotas opened for 1977 and gave other information concerning the arrangements for claiming benefit. It is now possible to give further details of certain renewed annual EEC tariff quotas which have been opened from 1 July.

Algerian wines

Community tariff quotas have been opened from 1 July 1977 to 30 June 1978 for certain wines having a registered designation of origin* of tariff heading ex 22.05C originating in Algeria. Council regulation (EEC) 1391/77 (published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* L158, 29 June 1977) provides for community tariff quotas of 130 000 hectolitres for wines in containers holding 2 litres or less and 180 000 hectolitres for wines in containers holding more than 2 litres with initial UK shares of 10 800 hectolitres and 14 200 hectolitres, respectively. There are community reserves for each tariff quota.

Within the limits of these tariff quotas and subject to the observance of free-at-frontier reference prices and certain packaging requirements (see below) such wines may be imported into the UK from Algeria free of customs duty. Any excise duty is payable.

Wines in containers holding more than 2 litres must be put up in accordance with requirements specified in the EEC regulation mentioned above. Wines in bottles must be in containers holding 2 litres or less.

Inquiries on the tariff headings, requirements regarding designation, packaging and reference price may be made to any office of a collector of HM Customs and Excise.

Eels

A community tariff quota has been opened from 1 July 1977 to 30 June 1978 for imports of certain fresh eels for processing from third countries. Council regulation (EEC) 1293/77 (published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* L149, 17 June 1977) provides for a community tariff quota of 6100 tonnes for fresh eels (live or dead) chilled or frozen of heading 03.01 AII, intended for curing or skinning or for use in the industrial manufacture of products falling within heading 16.04, with an initial UK share of 200 tonnes and a community reserve. Within the limits of this tariff quota imports of such goods are free of customs duty.

Alpine and mountain cattle

Community tariff quotas have been opened from 1 July 1977 until 30 June 1978 for certain animals, other than those intended for slaughter, of the following types: the mottled Simmental, the Schwyz and Fribourg breeds of alpine cattle and the grey, brown, yellow and mottled Simmental breed and mottled Pinzgau breed of mountain cattle falling within subheading ex 01.02 AIIb) of the common customs tariff. Council regulations (EEC) 1331/77 and 1332/77 (published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* L154, 23 June 1977) provide for community tariff quotas of 5000 head for cattle of the alpine breeds and 30 000 head for cattle of the mountain breeds with UK shares of 75 head and 300 head, respectively. There are community reserves for each tariff quota. Within the limits of each quota such cattle may be imported into the EEC at a rate of duty of 4 per cent.

ACP and OCT rum

Community tariff quotas for imports of rum, arrack and tafia of tariff heading 22.09 CI from the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries (ACPs) and the overseas countries and territories of the EEC (OCTs) have been opened from 1 July 1977 to 30 June 1978. Council regulations (EEC) 1377/77 and 1378/77 (published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* L157, 28 June 1977) provide for community tariff quotas of 173 009 hectolitres of pure alcohol for imports of rum, arrack and tafia from the ACP countries and 71 571 hectolitres of pure alcohol for imports from the OCTs with UK shares of 126 030 and 100 respectively. Within the limits of each tariff quota imports are free of customs duty. Any excise duty is, however, payable; and for ACP goods must be paid when quota relief is claimed. (The Customs Duties (Quota Relief) Order 1977 – SI 1977 no. 1082 – provides for administration of the UK's share of the tariff quota for rum, etc. from the ACP countries.)

Swiss processed textiles

Council regulation (EEC) 1179/77 (published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* L142, 9 June 1977) provides for a community tariff quota from 1 September 1977 to 30 August 1978 on the added value of processing work carried out in Switzerland on yarn and fabric reimported into the EEC. There is no known UK trade in these goods; the UK may draw on the EEC reserve if need should arise though there is no UK initial share in this tariff quota.

Egypt

Two tariff quotas opened on 1 January 1977 for certain petroleum products of chapter 27 and for cotton fabric of heading 55.09 have been superseded (as indicated in the notice of 21 January 1977) from 1 July 1977 by arrangements under which these goods may be imported duty-free within community ceilings. (Details will be published in part 10 D of HM Customs Tariff.)

Notes

Qualifying imports will be debited against the tariff quotas in the order in which any importer enters them for home use and claims relief from duty.

Information about how much of a quota has been used should be made to the Tariff Quota Registration Unit, HM Customs and Excise, King's Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE, tel. 01-626 1515, ext. 2570.

Any general inquiries about this notice should be made to General Division 2, Department of Trade, Room 333, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ.

Copies of the *Official Journal of the European Communities* and of UK Statutory Instruments may be obtained from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, tel. 01-928 6977.

*The designated wines are Ain Bessem-Bouira, Medea coteaux du Zaccar, Dahra, coteaux de Mascara, Monts du Tessalah, coteaux de Tlemcen.

Guide to government statistics

Published with Trade and Industry 15 July 1977

The Government Statistical Service

The Government Statistical Service (GSS) comprises the statistics divisions of all major departments plus the two big collecting agencies – Business Statistics Office and Office of Population Censuses and Surveys[1] – and the Central Statistical Office which co-ordinates the system. In sum, it is the greatest concentration of statistical expertise and by far the largest single provider of statistics in the country.

The GSS exists first to serve the needs of modern government. But much of the information it compiles is readily usable by business management, particularly in marketing, and indeed large parts of the system have been shaped with this in mind. A vast amount of this information is regularly published and more is available on request.

It is not expensive. The price covers the cost of making it available – for example, the publishing cost of a printed publication or a computer's time in producing a special tabulation.

What the GSS normally *cannot* do is give tailor-made answers to an individual firm's problems. It simply provides a very large source of inexpensive information which may help in finding solutions; and it is nearly always worth checking to see what is available before embarking on private research.

Using government statistics

Many firms make use of government statistics together with information from other sources to help both in broad strategic planning and in day-to-day decision taking. The GSS has prepared a free booklet *Profit from Facts* which illustrates this with a number of actual case histories. The following checklist indicates some of the main areas of use which might be applicable to your firm's needs.

Marketing

- Look at your industry's *Business Monitor, Ministry of Agriculture Information Notice* or *Housing and Construction Statistics* to compare your own performance against general sales trends and to watch for opportunities for diversification.
- From a variety of sources you can check the number of potential customers in a given sector and compare characteristics with your own customers to highlight possible weaknesses in marketing strategy.
- If you are in consumer lines, trends in expenditure are available from the *National Food Survey* and the *Family Expenditure Survey*.
- For test marketing, the *Census of Population* and *Census of Distribution* can provide very localised data on numbers of consumers and retail outlets.
- Many statistics are available on a regional or area basis and can assist in determining quotas for area salesmen.
- Watch the foreign competition through the import figures available from the Customs and Excise Bill of Entry Service.

[1] The OPCS also includes the registration division of the Registrar General's Office.

Contracts

Many contracts contain escalation clauses. Consult the Property Services Agency's *Monthly Bulletin of Construction Indices,* or speak to the Department of Industry and Department of Employment respectively to find the most appropriate materials and labour indices to use.

Accounts

The CSO's new publication *Price Index Numbers for Current Cost Accounting* provides price indices for use in the new system of company accounting recommended by the Sandilands Committee.

Buying

Watch the sales trends of your materials inputs through *Business Monitors,* etc, and their prices with the appropriate wholesale prices indices from the Department of Industry.

Personnel

The Department of Employment Gazette and other DE publications will keep you fully informed on the latest figures and trends in earnings, wage rates, overtime, unemployment, vacancies, hours of work, work stoppages due to industrial disputes, retail prices, etc.

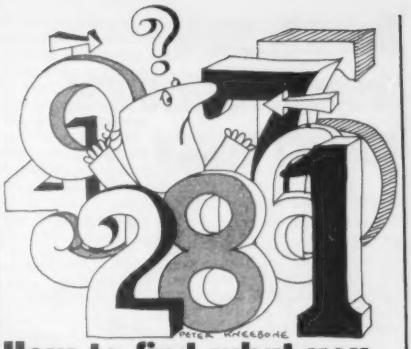
Management efficiency and finance

You can compare your own costs and operating ratios with those for your industry, eg

- net output per head, stocks as a percentage of sales, wages per £ of total sales, etc, from the annual *Census of Production.*
- return on capital, dividends and interest as a percentage of turnover, etc, from *Business Monitor M3* (*Company Finance*).

Investment

Major investment decisions are made against the background of trends and prospects in the economy. Regular press notices on output, demand, earnings, prices, unemployment, trade, etc are released by government departments. They are all brought together once a month in *Economic Trends.*



How to find what you want

For anyone coming new to government statistics, the first thing to grasp is that each department prepares and publishes its own statistics – via HMSO in the case of most printed publications.

If the series is of sufficient interest, it may emerge first in summary form as a press notice. A more detailed treatment is given in the department's own publications – either general publications such as *Trade and Industry* or purely statistical reports like the *Business Monitors.* Finally, it may be included in all-embracing statistical periodicals like the *Monthly Digest of Statistics* or the annual *Social Trends.*

It may be that your needs can be met from one of these digests; or you may have to consult the special departmental publication; or you may have to go further still and seek a special tabulation – at cost – from the department.

The last two pages list the main regular publications, all of which can be referred to at the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library at Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, where you will also find photocopying facilities. Most of the principal volumes will be held or quickly obtained by major public libraries around the country. If you wish to purchase a copy, this can be done through any of the government bookshops.

If you cannot find what you need, refer to the more comprehensive *Guide to Official Statistics* or contact the appropriate departmental source, listed on the next two pages. All the extension numbers quoted were up to date at the time of going to print. But they are subject to change, and if you have difficulty finding the right person phone **Statistics and Market Intelligence Library at 01-248 5757 ext 368 (telex 886143),** or write to **Press and Information Service, Central Statistical Office, Great George Street, London SW1P 3AQ** – or, if you are located in Wales or the West, contact the **Business Statistics Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent NPT 1XG (tel. Newport 56111 ext 2973; telex: 497121).**

in Summary

- **Look at the published source**
  at the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library
  or your local library
  or by purchasing from HMSO
- **For further information**
  phone or write to the appropriate department
- **If in doubt**
  phone or call at the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library or the Business Statistics Office, or write to the Central Statistical Office

Departmental responsibilities and contact points

Central Statistical Office
Great George Street, London SW1P 3AQ
01-233 followed by extension
National income and expenditure, balance of payments, index of industrial production, financial statistics, input/output statistics, development of social statistics, regional statistics ext 6135/6193
Survey Control Unit inquiries only ext **7341**

Industry, trade, prices

Departments of Industry, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protection

Business Statistics Office
Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent NPT 1XG
Newport 56111
General inquiries ext **2973**
Production statistics:
Annual production statistics ext **2455**
Quarterly and monthly production inquiries exts **2337/2322**
Purchases inquiry ext **2369**
Classified List of Businesses exts **2557/2761**
Distribution statistics:
Census of distribution 1971 ext **2000**
Annual inquiry into distributive and service trades, capital expenditure and stocks ext **2113**

Other offices
1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET
01-215 followed by extension
Wholesale price indices exts **3351, 3544**
Capital expenditure and stocks, and investment intentions of private industry:
Manufacturing ext **3176**
Distributive and service trades ext **3345**
Retail trades turnover ext **3705**
Motor and catering trades turnover ext **3177**
Hire-purchase and other instalment credit ext **3162**
Aerospace ext 4052
Companies:
Acquisitions and mergers, liquidity, insolvencies ext **5538**
Analysis of accounts ext **3132**
Insurance, private sector pensions funds ext **3162**
Overseas trade:
Visible ext **3131**
Invisible ext **5176**
Overseas direct investment and earnings ex t**3135**
Economic indicators:
Home ext **3453**
Industrial countries ext **3442**

Abell House, John Islip Street, London SW1P 4LN **01-211** followed by extension
Scientifically qualified manpower ext **4496**
R&D expenditure by industry ext **3631**

Cromwell House, Dean Stanley Street, London SW1P 3HY **01-212** followed by extension
Shipping ext **6730**
Tourism ext **0616**

Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QU **01-211** followed by extension
Industrial development certificates ext **3324**
Distribution of industry ext **6073**

Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AG **01-212** followed by extension
Manufacturing industries – production, sales, orders:
Steel and shipbuilding ext **5544**
Engineering ext **6044**
Metals ext **6532**
Motor vehicles ext **0788**
Chemicals ext **6937**
Textiles, clothing, footwear, leather, man-made fibres ext **6210**
Other industries ext **6331**

Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU **01-248 5757** **Telex: 886143 DTI Export Ldn**
All foreign and Commonwealth statistics ext **337**
Statistics and Market Intelligence Library ext **368**
Provides up-to-date and comprehensive trade statistics for all countries, and general statistical publications from all over the world. Directories and foreign manufacturers' catalogues are also held. Reading room and copying facilities are available.

Energy

Department of Energy
Thames House South, Millbank, London SW1P 4QJ **01-211** followed by extension
Fuel and energy statistics ext **4292**

Population

Office of Population Censuses and Surveys
St Catherine's House, Kingsway, London WC2B 8JP **01-242 0262**
Population and vital statistics (England and Wales):
National and local estimates of population ext **2249**
Regional demography and sub-national population projections ext **2183**
Overseas migration ext **2182**
National population projections, international data and general inquiries ext **2169**
Deaths, abortions, infectious diseases ext **2229**
Births ext **2162**
Divorces and marriages ext **2168**
Social surveys ext **2292**
Census of population, general inquiries exts **2009, 2013**

Census Division, Customer Services Section, Titchfield, Hampshire **Titchfield 42511**
Supply of special and unpublished statistics exts **231, 296**

The OPCS Reference Library at St Catherine's House **01-242 0262**
holds copies of all OPCS publications and historic references of the General Register Office, together with national and international publications on OPCS subjects. It may be visited by arrangement ext **2235/2237**

Agriculture

Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Whitehall Place, London SW1A 2HH
01-839 7711
General inquiries exts **7000, 7024**
National expenditure estimates on food ext **477**
Food consumption estimates exts **388, 479**
Agricultural incomes, etc exts **292, 296, 297, 565**
Agricultural and food statistics for overseas countries ext **544**
Market prices (livestock, dairy products, etc) ext **7058**

Great Westminster House, Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AE **01-216** followed by extension
Commodity production statistics ext **7501**
Market prices (horticulture) ext **6711**
Fisheries ext **6143**

49–53 Parliament Street, London SW1A 2NH **01-233** followed by extension
Agricultural rents, land prices, etc ext **5454**

Government Buildings, Tolcarne Drive, Pinner, Middlesex HA5 2DT **01-868 7161**
Agricultural prices indices ext **35**
Wholesale price index (manufactured food and soft drinks) ext **108**
National Food Survey: household food consumption and expenditure ext **44**

Government Buildings, Epsom Road, Guildford GU1 2LD **Guildford 68121**
Agricultural censuses and surveys ext **518**

Civil Service

Civil Service Department
Whitehall, London SW1A 2AZ **01-273 3521**
Statistics of Civil Service employment, recruitment, etc

Customs and Excise

Customs and Excise
King's Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3 7HE **01-626 1515**
Statistics related to all indirect taxes administered by the Department ext **2024**
Bill of Entry Service, Statistical Office, Portcullis House, 27 Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea SS2 6AL
Southend 49421
United Kingdom external trade statistics ext **310**

Education, Science

Department of Education and Science
Elizabeth House, 39 York Road, London SE1 7PH **01-928 9222**
Statistics of schools, school leavers, teachers, further and higher education, educational finance and awards. International comparison and library statistics exts **2776, 2356**

Employment

Department of Employment
Orphanage Road, Watford, Herts WD1 1PJ
Watford 28500
Employment, unemployment, vacancies ext **403**
Earnings, wage rates, hours of work ext **651**
New Earnings Survey ext **500**
Stoppages of work due to industrial disputes ext **673**
Employers' labour costs ext **526**
Index of Retail Prices ext **630**

26 King Street, London SW1Y 6RB
01-214 8627
Family Expenditure Survey

Environment, transport

Departments of the Environment and Transport
St Christopher House, Southwark Street, London SE1 0TE **01-928 7999**
Roads ext **3045**
Road traffic exts **2198, 2629**

2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 3EP
01-212 followed by extension
Passenger traffic, road vehicles, public road passenger transport ext **5533**
Inland freight transport, railways ext **7513**
Road accidents ext **7452**
Traffic of seaports ext **8323**
Road goods transport ext **8297**
Building materials exts **7147, 8411**
Construction industries ext **7142**
Planning and land use ext **4113**
Local government financial statistics ext **4627**
Population projections exts **8558, 8563**
Household projections ext **8555**
Housing ext **8551**

Health, social security

Department of Health and Social Security
Friars House, 157-168 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8EU **01-703 6380**
Social security statistics ext **4284**

42–46 Weston Street, London SE1 3QW
01-407 4411
Statistics of personal social services ext **230**
Statistics of health services ext **223**

Home Office

Home Office
Tolworth Tower, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7DS
01-399 5191
Administration of justice; criminal and penal matters; immigration; misuse of drugs; fire; betting and liquor licensing; community relations; experiments on living animals; and elections ext **298**

Taxation

Board of Inland Revenue
Somerset House, Strand, London WC2R 1LB
01-438 6649
Statistics of direct taxes, corporate income, surveys of personal incomes, personal wealth and conveyancing

Overseas aid

Ministry of Overseas Development
Eland House, Stag Place, London SW1E 5DH
01-834 2377
Statistics of British aid to developing countries ext **265**

Scotland

Scottish Office
New St Andrew's House, Edinburgh EH1 3TD
031-556 8400
(postal codes as at subject headings)
General inquiries ext **4045**
Manpower/employment (Scottish Office interest) (EH1 3SX) ext **4389**
Scottish economic matters (general) (EH1 3TA) ext **4534**
Crime and related matters (EH1 3TF) ext **5115**
Planning and local government matters (EH1 3SZ) ext **5193**

St Andrew's House. Edinburgh EH1 3DB
031-556 8501
Education ext **2412**
Social work ext **2057**

Chesser House, 500 Gorgie Road, Edinburgh EH11 3AW **031-443 4020**
Agriculture ext **2003**
Fisheries ext **2145**

83 Princes Street, Edinburgh EH2 2HH
031-226 3781
Housing ext **233**

Scottish Health Service, Common Services Agency, Information Services Division, Trinity Park House, South Trinity Road, Edinburgh EH5 3SQ **031-552 6255**
Health statistics ext **2458**

Wales

Welsh Office (Economic Services Division)
Cathays Park, Cardiff CF1 3NQ
Cardiff 28066
Economic statistics ext **478**

Arlbee House, Greyfriars Road, Cardiff CF1 3SB
Cardiff 397971
Demographic statistics ext **59**
Education statistics ext **60**
Health statistics ext **45**
Housing statistics ext **68**

Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland Departments
Stormont, Belfast BT4 3SW
Belfast 63210
Economic statistics exts **2429, 2443**
Social statistics ext **2053**
Prices ext **2099**
Housing statistics ext **2327**

Dundonald House, Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast BT4 3SF **Belfast 650111**
Agricultural statistics ext **687**

Netherleigh House, Massey Avenue, Belfast BT4 2JS **Belfast 63244**
Manpower statistics ext **433**

Work Unit, Stoney Road, Belfast BT4 3SX
Dundonald 4535
Health and personal social services exts **109, 148**
Statistics of social security benefits exts **78, 149**

Dundonald House Annex D, Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast BT4 3SF
Dundonald 7121
Criminal and custodial statistics ext **17**

21 Linenhall Street, Belfast BT2 8BZ
Belfast 28081
Industrial statistics (general) ext **144**

Oxford House, 49–55 Chichester Street, Belfast BT1 4HL **Belfast 35211**
Population and vital statistics ext **336**

Road Service, Headquarters Division, Stoney Road, Belfast BT4 3SX **Belfast 760711**
Road and transport statistics ext **2672**

Rathgael House, Balloo Road, Bangor, Co. Down BT19 2PR **Bangor 66311**
Education statistics ext **290**

Government statistical publications

The most important government publications containing statistics are listed below. In most cases they are wholly statistical publications like *Business Monitors;* in others, the statistics appear in addition to other information. Far more detail, including information about *ad hoc* reports and articles, is offered by the *Guide to Official Statistics* (HMSO £7.50) which can be seen in many major libraries. Notes about new developments in official statistics are published in the quarterly *Statistical News* (HMSO £3.64 per annum).

Some statistics are compiled separately for England and Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland and it is not always possible to combine them into United Kingdom totals. In these cases it is often necessary to consult the separate publications for detailed information about each country.

Unless otherwise stated, all the following are published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office and can be ordered from any of the bookshops listed on page 74.

It may be worth checking whether other bodies such as trade associations or the National Economic Development Office have published any recent reports on the industry in question.

General digests

Monthly Digest of Statistics
collection of main series from all government departments. Monthly £1.95
Annual Abstract of Statistics
contains many more series than the Monthly Digest and provides a longer run of years. Annual £7.50
Social Trends
brings together key social and demographic series in colour charts and tables with a social commentary. Annual £6.90
Regional Statistics
a selection of the main statistics that are available on a regional basis. Annual £6.50
Scottish Abstract of Statistics. Annual £4.65
Digest of Welsh Statistics. Annual £3.90
Northern Ireland Digest of Statistics. 6-monthly £1.50

General economic

Economic Trends
commentary and selection of tables and charts provide a broad background to trends in the UK economy. The Annual Supplement (price £1.45) presents very long runs of quarterly figures for all the main series. Monthly £1.95
Scottish Economic Bulletin. 6-monthly £1.75
Welsh Economic Trends. Annual £3.75
Social and Economic Trends in Northern Ireland. Annual £2.00

Trade and Industry

contains statistics and commentary from the Departments of Industry, Trade, and Prices and Consumer Protection. Statistics include wholesale prices, capital expenditure and stocks, retail sales, catering and motor trades turnover, hire purchase, engineering sales and orders, industrial production and investment intentions, textiles man-made fibres, regional development grants and selective assistance, company acquisitions, liquidity and insolvencies, energy trends, home and OECD economic indicators, and overseas trade. Further information: 01-215 5021. Weekly 35p

National Income and Expenditure 'Blue Book'
gives detailed estimates of the national accounts including consumers' expenditure. Annual £3.50
UK Balance of Payments 'Pink Book'. Annual £2.05
Financial Statement and Budget Report
contains income and expenditure of central government and economic report including short-term forecast. Annual £1.40
Input-output Tables for the UK (Business Monitor PA1004). Annual £2.10
Price Index Numbers for Current Cost Accounting. Periodically £2.70

Industrial production and sales

Report on the Census of Production
published annually in the Business Monitor PA series in separate parts for each industry, with a separate volume of summary tables. Each part individually priced

Quarterly Statistics of Manufacturers' Sales
published in the Business Monitor PQ series in separate volumes for each industry. As well as sales figures, other relevant information such as imports and exports is also included. On subscription £1.00 each per annum. Complete sets £100.00 per annum
Monthly Statistics
published for certain industries in the Business Monitor PM series in separate volumes for each industry covered. On subscription £3.06 each per annum
Report on the Census of Production for 1968
The last of the quinquennial surveys, now superseded by the current system of quarterly and annual statistics, was for 1968. All parts are now out of print. Photocopies may be obtained on repayment from the Library, Business Statistics Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent NPT 1XG. Parts 159–171 (the Directory of Businesses) have been replaced by a new set of publications entitled 'Classified List of Businesses', details of which are available from Business Statistics Office Library.
Census of Production for Northern Ireland. Annual £1.60

Energy

Digest of UK Energy Statistics
contains tables and charts of UK energy production and consumption. Separate sections deal with production and consumption of individual fuels, oil and gas reserves, fuel prices and foreign trade in fuels. Annual £9.00
Note: Further statistical information can be obtained from the annual report and accounts of each of the nationalised industries.
Energy Trends[1]
contains monthly and quarterly tables of production and consumption of fuels and aggregated energy consumption together with a commentary. Monthly, free

[1] Obtainable from Information Division, Department of Energy (address page 72)

External trade

Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom
gives detailed statistics of exports and imports cumulated throughout the year. More detailed annual volumes are also produced. Monthly £6.50
Quarterly Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom
will contain external trade statistics for the most recent five quarters. Available mid-1978
Statistics of Trade through United Kingdom Ports
which commenced publication in 1976 provides a quarterly commodity and country analysis by ports of United Kingdom overseas trade. Quarterly and Annual £6.00; Annual subscription £33.50
Overseas Trade Analysed in Terms of Industries
gives an analysis of commodities imported and exported, according to the industries of which they are principal products. Annual 30p
Bill of Entry Service
with a few exceptions, analyses of exports and imports under individual trade headings and with individual countries or through United Kingdom ports for particular months or cumulative periods can be obtained from the Bill of Entry Service, Statistical Office, HM Customs and Excise, Portcullis House, 27 Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea SS2 6AL (Southend-on-Sea 49421 ext. 310) on payment of a fee to cover the costs of the service.

Building, construction and property

Housing and Construction Statistics
figures on output, orders, prices, finance, etc., in construction, housebuilding and building materials. Some regional analyses. Quarterly £2.60
Local Housing Statistics, England and Wales. Quarterly £2.00
Housing Return for Scotland. Quarterly 45p
Digest of Housing Statistics for Northern Ireland. Quarterly 29p
The three publications above contain housing statistics for local authority areas
Annual Census of the Construction Industry (Business Monitor PA500). Annual 76p
Private Contractors' Construction Censuses. Annual £1.50
Monthly Bulletin of Construction Indices
for use with National Economic Development Office price adjustment formula. Separate bulletins for:
Building Works. Monthly 60p
Civil Engineering Works. Monthly 40p
Specialist Engineering Installations. Monthly 50p
Rates and Rateable Values in England and Wales. Annual £1.50
Rates and Rateable Values in Scotland. Annual £1.00
Rents of Public Authority Houses and Rent Rebates and Allowances in Scotland. Annual 37p

Mining and quarrying

Minerals 1974 and 1975 (Business Monitor PA1007) presents statistics on minerals extracted, employment, etc., in the mining and quarrying industry. Annual 95p
United Kingdom Mineral Statistics 1975. Annual £6.50

Manpower, earnings, retail prices, etc.

Department of Employment Gazette
includes articles, tables and charts on manpower,

employment, unemployment, hours worked, wage rates, earnings, labour costs, retail prices, stoppages due to disputes, etc. Monthly £1.20 (annual subscription £16.80)
New Earnings Survey
relates to earnings from employment by industry, occupation, region, etc., at April each year. Six parts between October and April. Each part costs £1.50
Time Rates of Wages and Hours of Work. Annual £4.40
Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Work. Monthly 35p
British Labour Statistics: Historical Abstract 1886–1968. £7.00

British Labour Statistics: Yearbook
contains detailed labour statistics for the year with some data on earlier years for the main series. Annual £17.00
Survey of Personal Incomes
analysis of incomes by range, source, marital status, and region. 1970–71 £1.50; Main results 1973–74[1], 35p
Estimated Wealth of Individuals in Great Britain 1974[1], 20p
Civil Service Statistics. Annual £2.75
First Destination of University Graduates. Annual £1.85

[1] Obtainable from Inland Revenue Public Inquiry Room, Room 8, New Wing, Somerset House, Strand, London WC2R 1LB.

Financial and companies

Financial Statistics
key financial and monetary statistics of the United Kingdom. Monthly £3.20
Company Finance (Business Monitor M3)
an analysis of the accounts of quoted companies. Annual £1.35
Insurance Companies and Private Pension Funds Investment (Business Monitor M5). Quarterly £1.00 per annum
Acquisitions and Mergers of Companies (Business Monitor M7). Quarterly £1.00 per annum
Local Government Financial Statistics, England and Wales. Annual £1.50
Local Financial Returns, Scotland. Annual 75p
District Councils, Summary of Statements of Accounts, Northern Ireland. Annual 65p
Insurance Business Statistics. Annual £24.00

Taxation

Inland Revenue Statistics
includes detailed results of the Surveys of Personal Incomes and Estimates of Personal Wealth. Annual £6.50
Report of the Commissioners of HM Inland Revenue. Annual £1.00
Report of the Commissioners of HM Customs and Excise
Statistics related to all taxes administered by Customs and Excise including the duties on tobacco, alcoholic drink, hydrocarbon oil and betting and gaming, import duties, and Value Added Tax. Annual £3.15
Betting and Gaming Bulletin[2]
revenue statistics. Monthly. Annual subscription £2.16 including postage
Spirits Bulletin[2]
detailed statistics of quantities duty paid. Monthly. Annual subscription £2.16 including postage
Wine Bulletin[2]
detailed statistics of quantities duty paid. Monthly. Annual subscription £2.16 including postage

[2] Obtainable from the Bill of Entry Service, HM Customs and Excise (address page 72).

Transport

Transport Statistics, Great Britain 1964-74. Annual £5.25
National Travel Survey
Vol. 1 Cross-sectional analysis of passenger travel in GB. £1.10
Vol. 2 Number of journeys per week by different types of households, individuals and vehicles. £1.25
Vol. 3 A comparison of the 1965, 1972/73 surveys. £1.10
Number of Road Vehicles, New Registrations (Business Monitor M1). Monthly. £3.06 per annum
Road Accidents. Annual £2.00
Railway Accidents. *Annual £3.50*
Analysis of UK Nationality of Vessels in Seaborne Trade
(Business Monitor M8). Annual 45p
Annual Digest of Port Statistics[1], Volumes I and II. Annual £10 per vol.
Quarterly Bulletin of Port Statistics[1]. Quarterly. £20 per annum
Casualties to Vessels and Accidents to Men, ***Return for 1975.*** *Annual £1.75*
Civil Aviation Authority Monthly Statistics[2]. Monthly £2.50 (£25 per annum)
Accidents to Aircraft on the British Register[2]. Annual £1.50

[1] *Obtainable from National Ports Council, 1-19 New* Oxford Street, London WC1A 1DZ.
[2] Obtainable from the Library, Civil Aviation Authority, *Aviation House, 129 Kingsway, London WC2B 6NN.*

Distribution and other services

Report on the Census of Distribution and Other Services 1971
numbers, sizes, types, turnover, floor-space, stocks, credit sales, etc, of businesses in the retail distribution field and related service trades. Published in the Business Monitor SD series:
Part 1 Retail Outlets (Establishment Tables) (SD10). £1.60
Parts 2 to 11 Area Tables (SD11-SD20). From £1.05
Part 12 Area Summary Figures (SD21). £2.00
Part 13 Retail Organisation Tables and Service Trades (SD22). £2.95
Supplement: Further establishment and organisation tables, and reprints of articles from *Trade and Industry* (SD23). Not yet published
Retail Trade
Summary figures for retail trade and detailed index numbers of sales in various kinds of shops (Business Monitors SD1, SD2, SD3, SD4). Monthly. £3.06 per annum each
Catering Trades
Summary of figures for all caterers, with analysis by kind of business. (Business Monitor SD5). Monthly. £3.06 per annum
Cinemas
Numbers of cinemas, admissions, etc. (Business Monitor M2.) Annual 30p
Motor Trades
Detailed statistics in the motor trades, their turnover, stocks and capital expenditure, numbers of organisations and establishments in the year 1972. (Business Monitor SD24.) 80p

Agriculture, fisheries and food

A comprehensive guide to sources of agriculture, food and fisheries statistics is published by HMSO as no. 23 in the series **Studies in Official Statistics.** *MAFF publishes much of its information through* **Statistical Information Notices** *and in a more permanent form in:*
Agricultural Statistics: England and Wales. Annual £3.75
Agricultural Statistics: United Kingdom. Annual £1.77
see also
Agricultural Statistics, Scotland. Annual £2.25
Statistical Review of Farming in Northern Ireland[1]. *Annual, free*
Sea Fisheries Statistical Tables. Annual £1.25
Scottish Sea Fisheries Statistical Tables. Annual £1.35
Household Food Consumption and Expenditure (National Food Survey)
report on food consumption, expenditure and nutrition by type of household. (Quarterly reports appear in **MAFF's Food Facts** and elsewhere). Annual £3.50

[1] Obtainable from address on page 73.

Population and households

The most detailed statistics on population and households are collected in the periodic censuses conducted by OPCS and the Registrars General for Scotland and Northern Ireland, the most recent of which was for 1971. County reports and separate volumes on immigration, economic activity, workplaces and transport to work, qualified manpower, household composition, etc, are all now published.
For annual mid-year estimates of population data to local authority level consult:
Annual Estimates of the Population of England and Wales and Local Authority Areas. 80p
Annual Estimates of the Population of Scotland. 60p
The Registrar General's Quarterly Return for N. Ireland. 38p
Population Trends
contains regular series of tables on subjects for which OPCS is responsible in England and Wales, in addition to articles on a variety of population and medical topics. Quarterly £2.00
For similar information for Scotland and Northern Ireland consult the quarterly and annual publications of the appropriate Registrar General
Population Projections
projections for the UK and constituent countries beyond the end of the century. Latest projections based on mid-1974 population. Annual 65p
OPCS Monitors, *available free of charge from* Information Branch (Dept. GS), Office of Population Censuses and Surveys are designed for the quick *release of figures within the range of OPCS activities.* These include the most recent population estimates and projections and migration figures.
Family Expenditure Survey
shows, in great detail, income and expenditure by type of household for the UK and includes some regional *analyses. Annual £4.00*
Family Expenditure Survey. Northern Ireland. Annual £1.15
General Household Survey
a continuous sample survey of households relating to a wide range of social and socio-economic policy areas. *Latest report for 1973. £4.00*

Education

Education Statistics for the UK. Annual £3.80
Statistics of Education
Six volumes mainly relating to England and Wales
Scottish Educational Statistics. Annual £5.15
Northern Ireland Education Statistics (two volumes). Annual £1.50 each

Home affairs

Betting Licensing Statistics. Annual £1.25
Experiments on Living Animals. Annual 22p
Fire and Loss Statistics for the United Kingdom. Annual £1.30
Control of Immigration: Statistics. Annual 35p
Liquor Licensing Statistics. Annual 90p
Statistics Relating to the Misuse of Drugs. *Annual (in preparation)*

Justice and law

Criminal Statistics, England and Wales. Annual £5.50
Criminal Statistics, Scotland. Annual £1.35
Civil, Judicial Statistics, England and Wales. Annual £2.00
Civil Judicial Statistics, Scotland. Annual 67p
Report on the Work of the Prison Department Statistical Tables. Annual £1.25
Report on the Probation and After-care Department. Triennial £1.20
Report on Prisons in Scotland. Annual £1.25
Offences Relating to Motor Vehicles. Annual £1.15
Offences of Drunkenness. Annual 22p

Health, social services and social security

Health and Personal Social Services Statistics for England. Annual £5.50
Health and Personal Social Services Statistics for Wales. Annual £3.35
Social Security Statistics. Annual £7.00
Scottish Health Statistics. Annual £5.50
Scottish Social Work Statistics. Annual £3.35
Report of the Supplementary Benefits Commission for Northern Ireland. Annual £1.25
Report on the Hospital In-patient Inquiry (Part 1). Annual £6.75
Also see relevant volumes of the annual reports of the three Registrars General.

Overseas aid

British aid statistics. Annual £5.00

Prices, which are subject to change, do not include postage.

Where to obtain HMSO publications

Government Bookshops, London

49 High Holborn, London WC1V 6HB (callers only) **01-928 6977**
PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH (mail orders only)
PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH (telephone orders only) **01-928 1321**

Government Bookshops outside London

(callers or mail order)
13A Castle Street, Edinburgh EH2 3AR **031-225 6333**
80 Chichester Street, Belfast BT1 4JY **Belfast 34488**
41 The Hayes, Cardiff CF1 1JW **Cardiff 23654**
258 Broad Street, Birmingham B1 2HE **021-643 3740**
Southey House, Wine Street, Bristol BS1 2BQ ***Bristol 24306***
Brazennose Street, Manchester M60 8AS **061-834 7201**

HMSO Sales Agents

In many other large towns there is a bookseller who acts *as an HMSO agent.*

Orders by post

Orders will be serviced more quickly if sent to the nearest Government Bookshop (in the London area orders should be sent to *Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH).*

Subscriptions

Annual subscriptions to all periodicals can be placed with any Government Bookshop.

General inquiries about HMSO publications

(not orders or matters related to them)
HMSO Publishing and Marketing Inquiry Section, *Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1P 1BN.* **01-248 9876 ext 6083.**

Overseas trade news

Dell calls for action to reduce economic tension

Forces of protectionism are a serious threat to the world's open trading system, warned Secretary of State for Trade Edmund Dell on 6 July. He called for action on the economic front to reduce the increasing tensions in the world economic situation. And he said that the UK was 'perfectly ready' to join with other countries in making of the multilateral trade negotiations a success which would free trade further and encourage its growth.

Addressing a conference on export strategy organised by the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Institute of Export, Mr Dell said that the existence of 15 million unemployed people within OECD countries and the 'deeply worrying' failure of governments to create an international climate favourable to economic expansion meant an increasing threat for the open trading system.

'Resort to protectionist action has become more frequent,' he said. 'This is of course sometimes necessary and we ourselves have taken selective action in a number of cases. But the spread of generalised action gives rise to more concern. There have been well-known recent examples in a number of major industrialised countries of restrictive action of a general nature, and it is not I believe an exaggeration to say that the liberal multilateral system is increasingly seriously threatened.'

Wherever one looked around, he said, and in this respect this country was no different, one saw the erosion continuing. This would go on unless by some means there was a return to a rate of economic expansion which would ensure to all participants in the world trading system some benefit at least which they could set against the perils to employment which were the first and most obvious impact of international free trade at a time of world depression.

No nation would in the end ignore its own political imperatives. Nations of the world had different interests which would not be sacrificed, and 'if some way is not found of reconciling these different interests rather more successfully than we have recently done, a great deal of value to the world and its people may be lost. I hope the problem will be seen and properly understood before it is too late,' he concluded.

UK's performance

Earlier Mr Dell had said that Britain's economic position was strengthening. Britain had stopped the erosion of her share of EEC markets, and her world-wide trading performance had recently been encouraging.

In the three months, March to May, a surplus of £39 million on current account had been registered, compared with a deficit of £312 million in the previous three months.

He pointed out that this success had been due to four factors: Britain's invisible export performance was up by over a third between 1975 and 1976, and still growing this year; there had been a real improvement in exports of goods – the volume of manufactured exports was up by 4½ per cent in the three months ended May compared with the preceding three months; imports were lower – the volume of imported manufactures was down by some 3 per cent in the same period; and North Sea oil has made an impact – in the last three months Britain's deficit on oil account fell by over £100 million.

Mr Dell said that by 1978 this country should be in surplus and with a minimum of economic prudence should remain in balance of payments surplus on current account for many years to come.

Anti-dumping duty on Japanese steel sections

On 7 July, Secretary of State for Trade Edmund Dell imposed an anti-dumping duty of £11 per tonne on non-alloy steel light sections from Japan.

This followed completion by the Department of Trade of an investigation into allegations that these products were being imported into the UK at dumped prices, and were causing material injury to the UK industry. Both allegations were substantiated. The duty replaces the provisional charge to duty of £20 per tonne imposed on 7 April which expired on 6 July.

Non-alloy steel light sections are covered by the treaty of Paris which established the European Coal and Steel Community. This provides for member states to take independent anti-dumping action where the case is not taken up on a community basis.

New customs import entry form

Customs and Excise plans to introduce a new import entry form, the 'General Import Entry', on 1 November this year. The reference number for the new form will continue as CIO (1977). It will replace most of the existing entry forms but current forms continuing in use will include those for transhipment cargo.

Trade interests have been consulted during the design of the form under the auspices of the Joint Customs Consultative Committee and advice has also been taken from the Simplification of International Trade Procedures Board (Sitpro) to ensure alignment with the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) layout key. A practical trial of an earlier version of the form was carried out in Manchester and design amendments were carried out as a result. Manchester was chosen for the trial because it is to be a pilot port for implementation of the new system.

The use of one entry form for a wide variety of transactions is made possible by the introduction of customs transaction codes (CTCs) which identify the nature of the transaction, and therefore the customs pro-

Australian consumer affairs minister in London

Secretary of State for Trade Edmund Dell with John Howard (right), Australian Minister for Business and Consumer Affairs, on 6 July. Mr Howard, who was in London from 3 to 11 July, also met John Fraser, Minister of State, Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, and Director General of Fair Trading Gordon Borrie.

cessing required, and also constitute any particular legal declaration required for that transaction. The form calls for some additional coding of information which already appears in a different guise on existing entry forms and a small amount of additional data to meet new requirements, but otherwise it is largely a repositioning of data to facilitate computer processing.

Many of the coding boxes will be appropriate only to particular transactions and will often not need to be completed. The size of the new form has had to be increased but, as agreed in discussions between customs and Sitpro, a standard size A4 (extended) is to be used.

With the introduction of the new entry form the opportunity is being taken by customs to review and improve the instructions for its completion. The new notice 465 combines several existing import notices into one and gives full details of forms to be replaced and section 3 of the tariff will be expanded to include detailed instructions as to the method of completion of entries for each CTC. Copies of the new instructions will be obtainable at collectors' offices.

Top-rank UK team in Bilbao

Proma '77, the international symposium on protection of the environment, was held in Bilbao from 21 to 24 June. A top-rank team of UK pollution control experts, invited jointly by the Spanish Ministry of Industry and the Bilbao trade fair authorities, provided 12 out of the 17 speakers at the symposium. Representatives of Spanish industry and of central and local government made up the bulk of the attendance.

Among the British speakers were Mr A. W. Kenny, chief scientific officer of the Department of the Environment, Dr A. F. Ellis of HM Alkali and Clean Air Inspectorate; Dr J. M. Campbell, environmental control manager, British Steel Corporation; Mr J. W. Batey, lately chief smoke inspector, City of Sheffield; Mr E. C. Mantle, deputy director of the British Non-Ferrous Metals Technology Centre; Dr H. J. Atherton, HM Alkali and Clean Air Inspectorate; Mr A. R. Coppen, group environmental control engineer, the Associated Portland Cement Manufacturers Ltd; Mr G. E. Eden, assistant director, Water Research Centre, Stevenage Laboratory; Mr R. K. Chalmers, chairman of Bostock, Hill and Rigby; Mr J. Arthurs, principal chemist, Wastes Division, Department of the Environment; and Mr R. F. Millard, superintending engineer, Solid Wastes Division, Department of the Environment.

Mr H. Fish, director of scientific services, Thames Water Authority (right), with Enrique Rolandi Gaite, marine commander for the Bilbao area (left), and the British consul-general in Bilbao, Bernard Coleman, during a break in the Proma '77 symposium.

Study tour of USSR chemical industry

At the invitation of the USSR government a study tour of the USSR's chemical industry will be held under the auspices of the Chemical Industry Committee of the Economic Commission for Europe from 16 to 24 September 1977. The USSR's Ministry of the Chemical Industry is organising the programme and making the arrangements.

Participants have to be nominated by the Department of Industry which has to submit registrations to the organisers as soon as possible. Interested individuals or companies are invited to get in touch with Mr A. Crystal, Department of Industry, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AG, tel. 01-212 0383, at the earliest possible opportunity.

Price not all-important in exports – Wilks

Chief guest at the meeting of the Scottish Export Committee in Edinburgh on 23 June, Jim Wilks, chief executive of the British Overseas Trade Board, said the time was fast approaching when price would not be the all-important factor in selling overseas.

Quality, design, availability, regularity of supplies and after-service would be what Britain would have to offer, he said. Germany and Japan had achieved this and so could this country. With an improving balance of payments position Britain could no longer depend on depreciating exchange rates for favourable export prices.

Mr A. S. Kyle, Dundee, chairman of the Scottish Export Committee, pointed out that Scotland played its part in the over-all UK export effort and it was part of the committee's job to keep this effort going 'and to put our foot on the accelerator wherever possible'.

The Scottish Export Committee was set up in 1966 as a forum for discussion on all matters affecting Scottish exports. The main bodies are the three chambers of commerce, Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow, along with the Scottish Council (Development and Industry). Support also comes from James Milne, director, Export Office for Scotland, the Scottish CBI, Scottish clearing banks, junior chamber of commerce, and agricultural export group, among others.

More colleges offer overseas trade course

Since 1975, the number of colleges offering the foundation course in overseas trade – which starts its third academic year in September – has risen from 33 to 43. More than 1400 students have enrolled for the course during its two-year existence.

The foundation course is a part-time course of one year's duration. It is supported by the British Overseas Trade Board and backed by four professional institutes – the Institute of Export, the Institute of Freight Forwarders, the Institute of Marketing and the Society of Shipping Executives.

On completion of the course, successful students are awarded a certificate of supplementary study by the Business Education Council, for an equivalent certificate in Scotland awarded by the Scottish Business Education Councils. Students can then move on to the latter parts of the examination schemes of one of the four institutes. In 1975/76, 72 per cent of students passed the examinations, of which more than one-third proceeded to further study.

The foundation course is designed for those with management potential in overseas trade as well as for the practising export executive. There are four main subjects in the syllabus: international trade and payments; cargo insurance; transportation and documentation; and elements of export law. Although the course has been designed as a complete package, it is possible to study any one of the subjects separately.

Copies of a brochure describing the course syllabus and teaching arrangements are available from the British Overseas Trade Board, Publicity Unit, Room 233A, 1 Victoria Street. London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 5492.

BOTB to back over 110 events in three months

During the three months July to September over 1500 British firms, with the support of the British Overseas Trade Board, will be taking part in 61 overseas trade fairs in 20 countries. In addition, assistance will be given by the board to over 660 firms going in 47 outward missions to 35 countries, and six retail store promotions will be supported.

In Melbourne from 25 to 30 July, some 50 British firms will be represented at the international engineering exhibition. It provides an important showplace for both new and regular British exhibitors and an opportunity to demonstrate to Australian manufacturing interests some of the latest equipment and production techniques from Britain's engineering industries.

About 100 British firms, represented either

directly or through their local agents, will be supported at the international trade fair in Auckland, New Zealand, from 19 to 27 August. The event covers a wide range of products and British participants will have a variety of goods and production skills to display to the large audience visiting the fair.

With BOTB backing, 21 British companies will be taking part in a British pavilion at the fourth international chemical exhibition in Moscow from 1 to 15 September, to show Soviet experts some of Britain's latest equipment, processes, products and techniques in a highly specialised technical field.

Over 60 British companies will be participating at the international engineering fair in Brno from 14 to 22 September. With BOTB support and under the sponsorship of the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Federation of Manufacturers of Construction Equipment and Cranes, and the Scientific Instrument Manufacturers Association.

Another important event – the international machine tool exhibition (EMO) – takes place in Hanover from 20 to 29 September. There will be a British representation of 70 firms assisted by BOTB and sponsored by the Machine Tool Trades Association. A wide range of British machine tools and associated equipment will be shown to the large audience of specialists and buyers expected to attend.

British buses in Singapore

In a simple ceremony at a lunch given by Leyland International Ltd and Tube Investments Ltd in Singapore on 13 June, acting high commissioner and head of the commercial department, Doug Phillips, presented, on behalf of the hosts, a specially commissioned water colour painting of a double-deck bus to Mr Tan Kong Eng, managing director of Singapore Bus Service Ltd. The occasion marked the successful conclusion of some two and a half years' intensive efforts by British commercial interests to supply double-deck buses to Singapore's public transport system, and the inauguration that day of the first service to be operated by the new buses; it came appropriately at the end of silver jubilee week.

After a trip to Britain as a guest of the BOTB in May 1975 to view equipment and the manufacture of buses, as well as their operation by various authorities, the managing director of SBS signed an order for 20 Leyland Atlantean chassis.

A great deal of interest and enthusiasm has been created by the introduction of double-deckers to Singapore's public transport fleet, and there are good expectations that once the buses have proved themselves in service then more orders will be forthcoming.

A Leyland double-decker in the centre of Singapore.

Hints to business men booklets

Revised editions of the booklets on Denmark, The Gambia, Sweden, Colombia and Kuwait have been published in the *Hints to business men* series. British business men who intend visiting these countries on export business can obtain copies of the booklets from Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade, Room D 05, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 7146, or any regional office of the Department of Industry.

Advertisements are accepted for all booklets in the series which covers over 100 countries. Inquiries about advertising should be addressed to Cheiron Press Ltd, 8/10 Parkway, London NW1 7AD, tel. 01-267 1285.

Iran: introductory guide available

'Business Practice in Iran' is the title of a report prepared by the commercial section of the British embassy in Tehran. This is an introductory guide and is divided into four main sections plus appendices.

The first section describes aspects of business practice which apply generally to trading with Iran; the second, third and fourth sections offer a more detailed explanation of specific types of business relationship from the simplest – the use of an agent – to the most committed – the joint venture.

Copies on request

Copies are available on request from Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions 5, Department of Trade, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 5376.

Yugoslav visitor

Berislav Sefer (left), Vice President of the Yugoslav Federal Economic Council, who was recently in London for talks with government ministers, with Secretary of State for Trade Edmund Dell, on 6 July.

THE edition of French electrical installations standard

Technical Help for Exporters (THE), the export advisory service of the British Standards Institution, has translated and published the complete new edition of the mandatory French standard NF C 15-100 *Low voltage electrical installation rules*. Published in France in June 1976, this edition supersedes the previous 1971 edition.

The provisions of the standard are to ensure the safety of personnel, the preservation of property and the correct operation of electrical installations. As it is a mandatory standard, all new electrical installations must comply with these provisions, and compliance is enforced by an elaborate certification procedure operated by the certification agency, Consuel, in conjunction with the supply authority, Electricité de France.

The THE edition contains 500 pages and costs £120 to THE members (£160 to non-members). Copies are available from the THE Sales Office, British Standards Institution, Maylands Avenue, Hemel Hempstead, Herts, tel. (0442) 3111.

'T & I' index inquiries

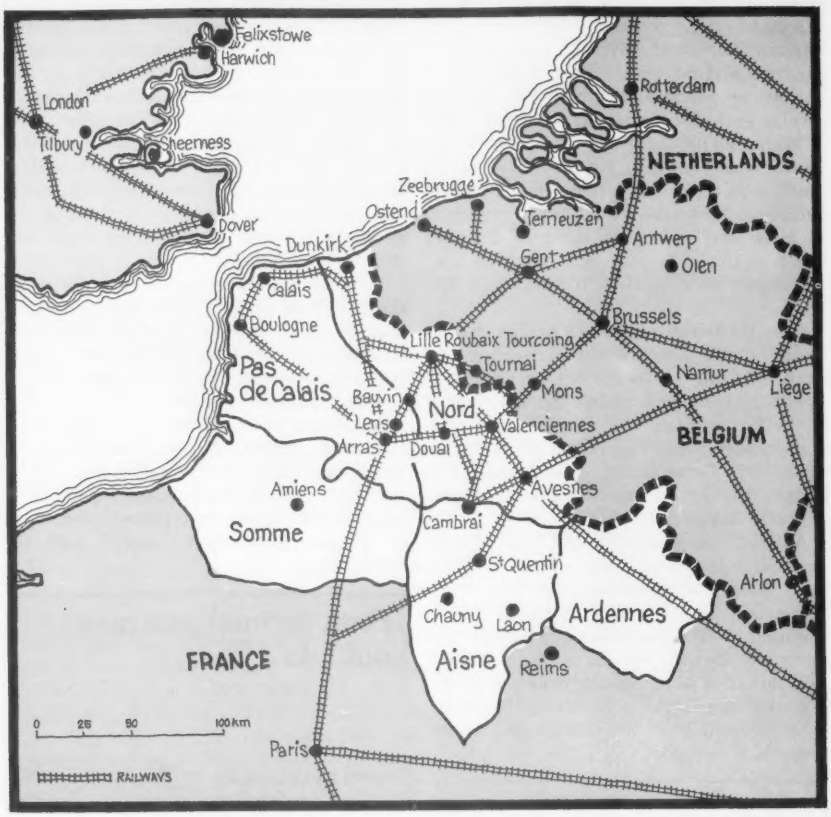
Readers wanting to know when articles and items of information were published in *Trade and Industry* should consult the published indexes which are issued free to subscribers. For material published in recent months, inquiries of this kind can be made to the Department of Industry Library's indexing section, tel. 01-215 5842. (Alternative no 01-215 5051.)

MARKET REPORT:
NORTHERN FRANCE

So near, yet so far

Despite its proximity, the north of France is comparatively little known to British businessmen. And yet it has great potential for the development of our exports. In this article – the first in a series of seven market reports on France's regions – Jack Hobbs, consul (commercial) at the British consulate-general in Lille, describes the industrial strength of the region and reviews the opportunities for British exporters.

Lille consular district: the market on our doorstep



Only one and a half hours distant by ferry and half an hour's flying time from London, the region covered by this article constitutes the nearest foreign territory to our own shores. It is known superficially to millions of British holiday makers who regularly use the Channel ports on their way to Mediterranean resorts, and to countless others who – or whose fathers – fought here in two world wars.

The British consulate-general in Lille covers five départements (see map above): Nord, Pas-de-Calais, Somme, Aisne and Ardennes, of which the first two, forming a single economic region, contain the main economic activity and concentration of population. Nord-Pas-de-Calais is in fact the most densely populated area in France outside the Paris region, with nearly 4 million inhabitants. Although occupying a mere 2.3 per cent of the total area of France, it accounts for 8 per cent of national production, 10 per cent of exports and over 12 per cent of imports.

Industrial background

The Nord-Pas-de-Calais has been known since the nineteenth century for three principal industries – coal-mining, steel and textiles. These traditional industries, while still important employers, no longer play the dominating role they used to, and many new activities have in recent years been introduced to the region. The coal mines, which employed 122 000 in 1960, have nearly reached the end of their useful life, and are likely to be closed in six or seven years' time. At present they employ only 44 000.

The textile industry, on the other hand, while it has shed a good deal of manpower in recent years following restructuring and the introduction of new methods and machinery, still accounts for a high percentage of national production (especially wool) and includes the two largest textile groups in Europe, Dollfus Mieg and Agache-Willot. Over one-third of France's steel production is in the north, and the new Usinor steel-making and rolling plant at Dunkirk accounts for a large proportion of it. Both the textile and steel industries have been severely affected by foreign imports and by structural problems akin to those experienced in Britain. Consequently the authorities have taken special measures to encourage the growth of new industries and to reduce the level of unemployment.

Next in importance to the traditional industries are the secondary steel industry, heavy engineering and plant manufacture. This group includes steel tubes, casting and forging, shipbuilding, off-shore oil rigs, cement and sugar plant, mechanical handling equipment, boiler-making, railway rolling stock, nuclear engineering and agricultural machinery. There is also a considerable chemical industry, producing fertilisers, acids and carbochemicals, as well as several important glass firms (both tableware and flat glass), paper mills, and sugar refineries.

The automobile industry is represented by a few factories of long standing, and several of more recent origin. Among the former is the Peugeot diesel engine works in Lille, whilst the biggest new plant is the Renault works at Douai. Together with other components such as tyres the automobile industry now employs nearly 30 000 workers in the north of France.

A new ethylene cracker is under construction at Dunkirk and it is hoped that this will give a boost to the growth of petro-chemical industries in the region.

Although the region lacks light industry and is weak in service industries – the 'tertiaire' – several important mail order firms, including the two leaders, La Redoute and Trois Suisses, are based in the Lille area.

France's 22 regions

The coast

Dunkirk, Calais and Boulogne play an important role in the economy of the region. Dunkirk, France's second commercial port, has recently been greatly extended and improved, and possesses modern bulk-handling and container facilities in addition to a well-developed industrial activity. Calais

handles over 4 million passengers a year, as well as a growing volume of commercial traffic. Boulogne is France's leading fishing port and possesses extensive freezing and cold storage facilities which are being expanded to cater for the growing market for frozen vegetables.

Communications

Communications with and within the north of France are good. Lille lies at the junction of two main motorway systems – north–south between Antwerp and Paris, and east–west between Dunkirk, Liège and the Rhine valley. Further motorways are planned or actually under construction. Access to the south and east coasts of Britain is provided by regular and frequent cross-channel services, in which the roll-on/roll-off passenger ferry is playing an increasingly important role in the transport of lorry-borne freight.

There are good fast railway links between the Channel coast and the rest of France and the region is well provided with navigable waterways linking Dunkirk with Lille, Valenciennes and the Belgian canal system. The Dunkirk-Lille canal is now wide enough to carry barges of up to 3000 tonnes, and in a a few years' time will have been widened all along its length to match the Belgian network. The modern airport at Lille (Lesquin) offers regular services to Paris, London and numerous other cities, and has comprehensive facilities for handling air freight.

Owing to its central position within the European community, the Lille area is important as a transit and distribution zone, and the local authorities are anxious to encourage and develop this activity. From the British exporters' point of view, the north of France has much to offer as a point of distribution for markets throughout the continent, being well provided with freight storage depots, bonded warehouses, and other facilities for bulk-breaking and distribution.

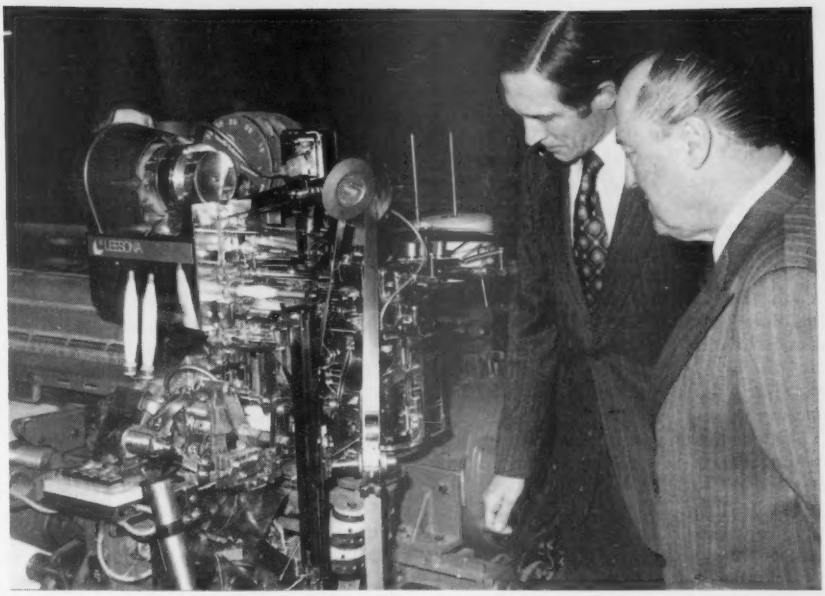
Foreign trade

It is however as a market in its own right that the Nord-Pas-de-Calais deserves the close attention of British exporters. With its concentrated and predominantly urban population the region is a natural market for all kinds of consumer goods, whilst its many and varied industries are potentially valuable customers for capital equipment.

Figures published by the regional customs administration show that in 1976 the Nord-Pas-de-Calais imported from the rest of the world goods worth nearly 38 000 million francs (about £4,470 million*), or 12.9 per cent of total French imports, whilst its exports amounted to nearly 27 000 million francs (£3,176 million), 10.09 per cent of the national total. These figures represented increases of 32.5 per cent and 20.8 per cent respectively over those for the previous year.

As regards regional trade with the UK, our exports in 1976 were worth 1671 million francs (£197 million) as against imports of 1541 million francs (£181 million), an increase of 72 per cent over 1975, when our trade was considerably in deficit. This encouraging development reflects not only the increased competitivity of British goods – helped of course by the progressive reduction in import duties – but also the greater interest in the French market shown by British exporters. The goods that we export to the region are many and various, the main categories being petroleum products, textiles, chemical and rubber products, machinery, motor vehicles, foodstuffs and agricultural produce.

*Current exchange rate fr 8.50 = £1 approximately.



Leesona Corporation has presented its 300 000 Unifil Loom Winder to the leading French textile group, Agache-Willot. The formal presentation at the Perenchies plant – which included a commemorative plaque in addition to this gold plated Unifil (shown) – was made by Mr F. W. Lawson, vice president of Leesona for Europe, Africa and the Middle East (left) to Bernard Willot, president, Agache-Willot (right). Altogether more than 400 British-built Unifil III's with special air power units and independent stripper drives have been installed for Agache-Willot.

Possibilities for British exporters

Despite this creditable performance by British exporters, the proportion of the regional import market held by Britain is still marginal, rising from 3.4 per cent in 1975 to 4.4 per cent in 1976. The traditional market leaders are the Belgians who regularly provide a quarter or more of imports into the Nord-Pas-de-Calais. The Netherlands, West Germany and the United States are our other main competitors. France's nearest European neighbours have over the years, and largely through their membership of the European community, been able to develop a very useful market for their exports in the north of France. We have responded slowly to this challenge.

Increasingly however the French are finding continental – especially German – prices less attractive, and are turning their attention across the English Channel in the expectation that British companies, with their lower costs, will be more competitive. With the elimination of the residual customs tariff on our exports to France there is no reason why these expectations should not be fulfilled. There is a very real interest here in the UK as a source of supply, especially for capital equipment and industrial supplies, but British firms need to respond quickly and to quote competitively (in francs) if they are to win business. They should also remember that the

continued on page 80

A Portakabin unit manufactured in York in use as a club office and shop for the Lille University Sports Club. The headquarters of Portakabin's operations in France is in Lille.

English language is not generally spoken here.

The brief description of the region's industries given earlier will suggest to manufacturers of capital goods the lines on which they might seek to develop their exports. As for consumer goods, the market is wide open to imported products, subject of course to the usual reservations about local taste. It is up to each exporter to discover for himself to what extent his products may be suitable for this market, and it would be rash to attempt to list French idiosyncrasies in this short article. But British firms wishing to assess consumer reaction may well find that the annual Lille international fair, usually held in April or May, provides the best way of reaching a large number of potential customers in a short time.

Sales to the region can be achieved in a variety of ways. It is quite common for local distributors to rely on national importers and agents, whether in Paris or elsewhere, but many are equally prepared to import direct and take responsibility for distribution within a given area. British firms already selling to the French market through importers in Paris may well find it worthwhile appointing a separate agent for the north. There are also a few agents in Lille who distribute throughout the whole country, though these are rare.

In the case of industrial capital equipment most customers will buy direct from foreign suppliers, though proper representation in France will be required to obtain the business and to ensure satisfactory after-sales service. Export opportunities discovered by the staff of the British consulate-general in Lille are regularly published by the Export Intelligence Service.

The north of France has for a century or more attracted British investors and there are now over 100 firms, either in manufacturing or in distribution, in the Lille consular district owned, or partially owned, by British capital. The French authorities, in their efforts to attract new industry, provide valuable incentives to investors in those areas where unemployment is heaviest – in the mining belt and the Calais area, for example. British firms thinking of establishing a manufacturing or distribution base on the continent will find all the facilities they need in this region.

Whether they come as investors or salesmen, British businessmen will find a warm welcome in the north, provided they can convince their French partners that they are serious and display the necessary dynamism. The market is large in population, compact in area, and easily accessible. The British consulate-general in Lille will be happy to provide detailed advice in response to inquiries from exporters, through the British Overseas Trade Board, and to place its knowledge of local conditions and business contacts at the disposal of visitors.

ECGD addresses

The Export Credits Guarantee Department's head office is at Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EL. (Tel. 01-606 6699). ECGD has 10 local offices in various parts of the United Kingdom, and these are listed from time to time in *Trade and Industry*.

Overseas trade exhibitions

British technology leads the world at Laser '77

From Mr N. U. Rothnie, British consulate-general, Munich

Participating on a joint venture stand sponsored by Scientific Instruments Research Association (Sira) in conjunction with the Department of Trade, 19 British firms did excellent business at the laser opto-electronic exhibition held in Munich from 20 to 25 June.

A distinguished speaker said in his opening address that applications of the laser phenomena in research and industry now gave the lie to the sarcastic assertion of only a few years ago that laser was a solution looking for a problem. Applications of laser technology were amply demonstrated by the 162 firms who participated at Laser '77, in particular by the British contingent who with three new technical developments demonstrated that this industry in the UK is amongst the world leaders of innovation for laser equipment.

Culham Laboratories of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority exhibited for the first time the world's first commercial usage 5 kW continuous output laser and the stand was duly packed with visitors during the five days of the event. Over 40 serious inquiries for this expensive piece of equipment were received and Culham, having almost concluded a licensing agreement with a UK company to manufacture the equipment, feels that there is a tremendous potential for this industrial tool particularly in the area of selective surface treatment.

Another world first was to be seen on the stand of W. F. Stanley in the form of an optical scratch classifier which has been developed to assess the severity of an individual scratch on flat transmitting and reflecting surfaces. Interest in this product was so great that the UK company was able to report firm orders in the region of £14,000 and potential business well in excess of that figure.

The other innovation was to be seen on the stand of Scientifica and Cook Electronics which chose Munich to introduce its new laser XY displacement monitor measuring system intended for use in research, civil engineering and industry. The system has a measurement range of 25 mm to 500 m with a resolution accuracy to 10/000's of a metre.

A final success story which illustrates the quite remarkable success of the British participation at Laser is that of Twentieth Century Electronics which on the last day of the exhibition took a firm order for £120,000 for its fibre optic systems and high-speed photo detectors. Twentieth Century emphasised that it would not have got the business had the firm not been at Laser '77.

In total, firm and potential orders obtained on the British joint-venture stand easily exceeded the £1.5 million mark which, given the size of the industry world-wide, must make UK participation at Laser '77 one of the success stories of this jubilee year. Despite the proliferation of trade fairs throughout the world devoted to laser and opto-electronic technology the generally-held view is that the Munich event is probably the best organised and attended event of its kind anywhere. Whatever the merits of such an assessment may be there can be no argument about the overall value of the event and the part it has played in bringing laser technology out of the laboratory into the commercial market place and, what is more, the British are in that market place and seemingly set fair to obtaining a fair part of it through technical excellence and commercial acumen.

Guarded optimism at Paris Interclima

From Mr R. G. Hyde, British embassy, Paris

A more compact salon than its predecessor in 1974, with less stand space, the fifth Paris Salon International du Chauffage, du Froid et de la Climatisation (Interclima) was held at the Porte de Versailles exhibition park from 6 to 11 June. Despite a downturn during the last two years in the French industries

The Refrigeration Appliance stand at Interclima, with Mr J. Dunn, export manager (left), and Mr R. Arculus, minister (economic) from the British embassy (second left).

covered, the exhibition, postponed from 1976, was held at a time of guarded optimism for the future, and the experience of most of the dozen or so British manufacturers represented was certainly encouraging.

Nine British firms took part in a joint venture sponsored by the Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning Manufacturers Association: four were in the heating section; three in the refrigeration section; and the remaining two in the air-conditioning section of this carefully divided exhibition.

Particularly good results were reported by Refrigeration Appliances, of the Delta Group, with its commercial coolers and freezers with tangential fans; the firm's solar collector panels also attracted lively interest.

Higher level of inquiries at Chicago carpet fair

From Miss E. N. Brown, British consulate-general, Chicago

Thirteen British carpet manufacturers successfully took part in the June national floor coverings market and the national exposition of contract furnishings Neocon show in the Chicago Merchandise Mart from 19 to 24 June.

Sponsored by the British Carpet Manufacturers Association and the British Overseas Trade Board, this joint venture was staged in the recently completed permanent showroom on the eighteenth floor of the mart which first opened in the presence of Lord Garnock in January this year. Since then the showroom has been modified to provide eight individual glass-fronted spaces where resident sales representatives working out of the mart will be able to utilise the showrooms throughout the year. The British Carpet Manufacturers Association has taken a five-year lease on the premises which will enable the exhibitors to target their assault on the vast retail and contract carpet markets of the United States during the January and June events – the most important in the industry.

Geoffrey Davidson, secretary of the British Carpet Export Council, attended the June show which opened on 19 June and ran through 24 June. He said the group was well pleased with the response from the market place and the growing awareness of the British presence in the mart, and added that he was confident in the long-term success of the venture and the choice of Chicago as the base from which the association's effort in the United States should be launched.

Participating firms reported that, although attendance is traditionally lower in June than in the January floor coverings market, the quality of inquiries was at a higher level with a greater potential for firm orders emerging during the follow-up period.

The Wool Bureau hosted a reception in the showroom area attended by about 150 buyers on the opening day of the Neocon show, on 22 June. Ken Green represented the Fairs and Promotions Branch of the Department of Trade and Mr H. W. (Chip) Sturdy, deputy consul-general, represented the British consulate-general, Chicago. A featured portion of the Neocon seminar programme, which attracts architects and interior designers throughout the United States, was a presentation by Peter G. Wood, Senior Designer, Dean Coough Milles, Carpets International. The presentation was one of several offered by the Carpet and Rug Institute directed to contract specifiers.

The next national floor coverings market will be held from 8 to 13 January 1978 and the combined June shows will run from 11 to 16 June, with Neocon scheduled for 14 to 16 June.

British cranes succeed at Intermat

British ambassador, Sir David Muirhead, on the Coles Crane stand at the Brussels international exhibition of civil engineering and construction equipment (Intermat) from 4 to 12 June. With him are (on his right) Hans van Kranenburg, chairman of SA van Kranenburg NV, Coles' distributors for Benelux, and Gaston den Tuenenburg, van Kranenburg's general manager for Belgium. Contracts to the value of £300,000 were signed during the fair, and a single order worth some £600,000 was also finalised for 3 by 80/88 (80 tonnes) telescopic cranes, which will be the biggest cranes of this type yet built in the UK.

Industrial publicity

Publicity for British exporters can often be obtained through use of the facilities of the Central Office of Information, which is concerned with collecting from industry items suitable for dissemination overseas by way of government information services. The COI is interested in news items, feature article material, photographs, tape recordings for radio, and films for television and other screening. Contact should be made with the nearest regional office covering your area.

Northern: Mr H. G. Roberts, Andrews House, Gallowgate, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4TB (Tel: 27575 – Telex 53277 NTYNE).

Yorkshire & Humberside: Mr T. Cooban, City House, New Station Street, Leeds LS1 4JG (Tel: 38232 – Telex 55472 COI DOE – G).

East Midland: Mr A. Waller, Severns House, 20 Middle Pavement, Nottingham NG1 7DW (Tel: 0602 56181 – Telex 37572 COINOT – G)

Eastern: Mr A. A. McLoughlin, 72-80 Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 1LL (Tel: 58911 – Telex 81187 COICAM – G).

London & South Eastern*: Mr A. J. Goodson, St Christopher House Annexe, Sumner Street, London, SE1 (Tel: 01-928 2371 – Telex 918881 COI FORLANG LDN, message to be prefixed for London Region).

Southern: Mr A. S. Poole, Market Place House, Reading RG1 2EH (Tel: 580463 – Telex 848216 CENTROFORM RDG).

South Western: Mr P. D. Yorke, The Pithay, Bristol BS1 2NF (Tel: 291071 – Telex 44203 COIBSL – G).

West Midland: Mr D. C. Boyd, Five Ways House, Islington Row, Middle Way, Birmingham B15 1SH (Tel: 021-643 8191 – Telex 337576 COIBHAM).

North Western: Mr P. B. Porter, 22nd floor, Sunley Building, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester M1 4BD (Tel: 061-832 9111 – Telex 667830 CENTROFORM MCHR).

Scottish Office: Mr C. MacGregor, MBE, Scottish Information Office, New St. Andrew's House, St James Centre, Edinburgh EH1 3TD (Tel: 031-556 8400).

Ulster Office: Northern Ireland Information Service, Stormont Castle, Belfast BT4 3ST (Tel: 63011).

Welsh Office: Mr Brian Evans, Director, Welsh Office Information Division, Oxford House, Hills Street, Cardiff CF1 2XG (Tel: 44171 – Telex 49327).

* National companies in central London, and particularly those with UK subsidiaries or branches, which require overseas publicity should consult Industrial Section at COI Headquarters: Mr E. Turnbull, Central Office of Information, Hercules Road, London SE1 7DU (Tel: 01-928 2345 ext. 271 – Telex 915444).

Overseas trade
export services

MacAndrews expands Bilbao service . . .

UBC/MacAndrews has purchased a new 6400 ton roll on-roll off vessel with a maximum speed of 19 knots and capacity for 200 20-ft units which will increase capacity on its Macpak service between Southampton and Bilbao. As a new feature this vessel will call at Bordeaux-Bassens.

A strict weekly sailing schedule will be implemented by middle August on a chartered ro-ro vessel until MacAndrews receives its own new ro-ro ferry to be named *Goya* by middle of September.

The new cargo ferry will discharge at Bordeaux every Wednesday and return for loading Saturday morning. The schedule will be:

	Arrive	Depart
Southampton		Mon 1800
Bordeaux-Bassens	Wed 0600	Wed 1200
Bilbao	Thurs 0600	Fri 1200
Bordeaux-Bassens	Sat 0800	Sat 1200
Southampton	Mon 0600	

New cargo handling equipment is being introduced to meet the needs of this expansion and steps have been taken to ensure experienced and personalised efficiency at each port.

. . . and introduces new container service to Gibraltar

After a three-year study period MacAndrews has introduced a new container service to Gibraltar from Sheerness which has been the home-port for MacAndrews conventional service to Gibraltar over recent years. Schedule regularity will be increased, however, from fortnightly to weekly departures by the operation of two chartered cellular container vessels of about 140 20 ft equivalent units (teu) capacity. It is planned in due course to replace these vessels by two larger container vessels with a capacity of about 200 teus.

On the way to Gibraltar, the new service calls at Lisbon and on the way home to the UK, it will cover Cartagena, Cadiz and Lisbon. There will also be a complete network of groupage depots throughout the UK placed at the disposal of the trade. And there will be facilities for carriage of refrigerated containers including reefer points in the marshalling area in Gibraltar.

Further information: circle 556

News of services for exporters

If your company has recently introduced a new service for exporters – in, for example, the packing, forwarding, shipping, airfreighting, banking or translation fields – we would be glad to have details, plus a good black and white photograph where appropriate.

Items for inclusion in our fortnightly 'Export Services' feature should be addressed to the Overseas Editor, 'Trade and Industry', Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1.

Advertisers who wish to be associated with this feature should contact Mike White at T. G. Scott's on 01-242 6264.

Tyneside company leases tank containers

A new company – Access Containers Ltd – has been formed on Tyneside to lease tank containers. It will provide 20 ft ISO stainless steel tanks to meet Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organisation class 1, 2 and 3 requirements on a minimum rental period of six months.

Class 1 tanks for very hazardous products will be manufactured to customers' requirements and availability on all classes is said to be good, ranging from ex-stock on standards to three months on specials.

For long-term leasing Access is prepared to provide new tanks in the customers' corporate livery without extra charge.

Further information: circle 557

Lolift container crosses Atlantic

Shippers and manufacturers in the United States and Mexico will soon be using a British design of flexible intermediate-bulk container for transporting and storing powder, granules, and similar substances, as a result of agreements with two American distributors by Lolift (UK) Ltd of Knaresborough.

First orders from the new transatlantic markets for Lolift 1-tonne capacity 'bags' for shipping powdered chemical products have already been taken to the value of £350,000. Lolift bags, made from tough polypropylene and with optional liners of heavy-duty polythene, keep their contents free from contamination and, says the company, are therefore especially suited for carrying 'pure chemicals.

Other design features of the Lolift bag of importance to the chemicals industry are the facilities for dust-free filling and discharge. The design also enables the bags to be safely and simply lifted from the top by four webbing loops.

Further information: circle 558

The 1-tonne-capacity Lolift bag for transporting and storing powder, granules, and similar substances in intermediate-bulk form.

Trans-Sahara trailerload to Nigeria

Ferrymasters, a P and O Unit Load's company, now operates a scheduled weekly trans-Sahara trailer service to Nigeria from the UK, Scandinavia and Europe, in association with Trans-Sahara Freighting Service.

Collection of loads, including consolidation, is now available through any one of the 29 Ferrymasters' depots located throughout the UK, Ireland, Scandinavia and western Europe. Already, loads are being shipped from points as far apart as Gothenburg in Sweden and Milan in Italy, while the UK, Belgium, Germany, Holland and France are proving to be major sources of traffic.

Transit time to Nigeria is approximately 15 days to Kano, routing through France and the ro-ro port of Marseilles to the north African port of Algiers.

The Algerian road haulage company, Société Nationale Des Transports Routiers Algériens, takes over the load from Ferrymasters' trailers in a security compound at Algiers to cover the remaining 3500 km Trans-Sahara and African leg of the route.

Further information: circle 559

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in these sections, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

Lep opts for ro-ro to Irish Republic

Following a period of intensive study Lep Transport has decided to replace the lift on-lift off groupage container service which it offered from London to Dublin with a faster, more competitive roll on-roll off groupage trailer service.

Departing twice weekly on Tuesdays and Thursdays, the new service loads at Lep's Charlton, south-east London depot, then the vehicles, which are driver accompanied throughout, utilise the Fleetwood/Dublin sea route.

To ensure rapid clearance on arrival, Lep Transport London, working in conjunction with Lep (Ireland) Ltd's Dublin office, has arranged to send a pre-advice telex to Lep Dublin the day before loading to enable advance preparation of the necessary entries which are lodged with the Irish customs ready for presentation as soon as the vehicle arrives. Any necessary amendments are made right up to the last minute so that the documents prepared correspond precisely with the originals carried by the vehicle.

With the vessel arriving in Dublin during the early hours of the morning and documents already lodged, Lep is assured of a speedy clearance. With the added advantage of customs clearance on the vehicle, goods can be ready for direct distribution on the same vehicle within the Dublin area later that morning.

To cater for traffic from the north-west, Lep Transport Manchester is also operating a similar service with departures on Tuesdays and Fridays from Chadderton. Whether the goods are from London or Manchester, Lep (Ireland) Ltd can, where necessary, arrange on-forwarding or distribution to any part of the Republic through its own network of offices and depots.

Further information: circle 560

Cheaper rail service to Iraq

Bulky cargo for export to Iraq can now travel cheaper by rail, in many instances, than by either road or sea freight, according to Davies Turner.

The British forwarders, who have made a speciality of running all modes of transport to the Middle East by several alternative routes, are now running rail groupage to Baghdad, Basra and Mosul, in Iraq. Consignments which measure 4 m^3, or more, per 1000 kg will be cheaper by rail than by road and, in many cases, than by sea. This, says Davies Turner, is because the rate structure is geared to high-volume goods. The higher the bulk-to-weight ratio, the greater the saving. Other advantages include the absence of congestion, the fact that rail wagons are loaded in the UK and travel direct to Iraq without trans-shipment and that cargo for Baghdad is handled at a separate rail depot.

Exports delivered to any of Davies Turner's seven provincial branches – at Birmingham, Felixstowe, Glasgow, Hull, Liverpool, Manchester, and Southampton – can be routed through to the company's depot at the London International Freight Terminal. Transit times are generally within a month to Baghdad, Basra or Mosul. Traffic for other destinations in Iraq can be delivered through the Iraqi agent's own transport services on a through bill of lading.

Further information: circle 561

More loading points for groupage cargo to Germany

Freight forwarders Thomas Meadows and Co Ltd has expanded the number of UK loading points for its scheduled TIR trailer groupage services to Germany.

Meadows now offers at-least-weekly departures to Germany from main UK industrial regions, with two departures weekly in many cases. Expansion of UK loading points has taken place since late 1976, and these now include Meadows' depots at Edinburgh (Newbridge); Manchester; Bradford; Sheffield; Nottingham; London (Leytonstone) and Lenham.

Shippers can arrange freight booking and documentation via their nearest Meadows' office in the company's chain of over 30 UK offices and depots. Using their own vehicles, local branches then co-ordinate movement of cargo to the regional centre for loading to TIR trailer.

Transit time, from day of loading at a Meadows' UK depot to final German destinations, is between four and six days.

Further information: circle 562

Dialling Czechoslovakia direct

Czechoslovakia has come on the 'direct line' from Britain, bringing to 57 the number of nations which UK telephone customers can call by international direct dialling. Czechoslovakia is also the fourth east European country to be linked by IDD to Britain – the others are the USSR (Moscow only), Hungary and the German Democratic Republic.

Dialling code

Some 2 700 000 telephones in Czechoslovakia – about 97 per cent of the nation's total – are now available on IDD. The code to dial is 010 42, followed by the area code and the subscriber's number. Fuller details will be given in a country dialling code leaflet, soon to be available. Copies can be obtained by dialling 100 during normal office hours and asking the operator for Freefone 2013.

Calls from Czechoslovakia to UK on IDD are not yet available.

Further information: circle 563

Alltransport ships giant air filters to ME

Pictured being lifted aboard mv *Chelsea Stream* at the Port of London's India and Millwall Docks is a giant Provenair 'Reversair' anti-pollution air filter, packed and forwarded for shipment to the Middle East Alltransport International Group.

Further information: circle 564

Overseas trade country data

Australia

Chemical products: tariff review reference. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 4 March 1977, indicated that as part of the tariff review programme a reference had been sent to the Industries Assistance Commission on the question whether assistance should be accorded the production in Australia of the following chemical products:

Beeswax and other insect waxes falling within item 15.15; colloidal precious metals, amalgams of precious metals, salts and other compounds of precious metals falling within item 28.49; distilled and conductivity water and water of similar purity falling within item 28.58.9; menthol falling within item 29.05.1; vanillin and ethylvanillin falling within item 29.11.1; butyraldehyde and other goods falling within item 29.11.2; methyl formate, ethylformate and other goods falling within item 29.14.4; dulcin falling within item 29.25.1; saccharin, salts of saccharin, chlorosaccharin and methylsaccharin falling within item 29.26.1; calcium cyclamate and sodium cyclamate falling within item 29.30.1; coumarin falling within item 29.35.3; pure water falling within item 30.03.7; essential oils and other goods falling within items 33.01, 33.02, 33.03, 33.04 or 33.05; lubricating preparations, artificial waxes, polishes and creams and other goods falling within items 34.03, 34.04, or 34.05.1; casein, gelatin, dexrin and other goods falling within items 35.01, 35.02, 35.03, 35.04, 35.05, 35.06.1 or 35.06.9; artificial graphite, prepared glazings, prepared mordants, pickling preparations for metal surfaces, fluxes, prepared culture media, preparations and charges for fire extinguishers and other goods falling within items 38.01, 38.12, 38.13, 38.16, 38.17, 38.19.1, 38.19.2, 38.19.31, 38.19.32, 38.19.39, 38.19.5 or 38.19.8; goods falling within item 38.19.9 in which the constituent that gives the goods their essential character is included in the preceding items.

It has now been announced that the commission will hold the public hearing commencing late October 1977; exact times and locations will be notified direct to parties who have notified their intention of submitting evidence at the inquiry. Other interested parties who have not yet notified their intention of submitting evidence are requested to advise the commission immediately at the following address: Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Canberra ACT 2600.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319. Ref: CRE 395/77

Tariff quotas: children's knitted suits. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 11 March 1977, page 639, announced that the Industries Assistance Commission had been asked to advise on whether tariff quotas should apply to children's tracksuits, playsuits, rompersuits and like garments falling within tariff item 60.05.19.

The Australian government has just announced its decision to introduce an annual quota of 5.1 million garments from all sources with retrospective effect from 1 May 1977. The present general rate of duty is 34 per cent and the preference rate 21 per cent. Goods imported in excess of the quota will pay a penalty rate of A$12/kg in addition to the appropriate rate of duty.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 468/469/401.

Certain non-adjustable spanners. A request has been received by the Australian Department of Industry and Commerce for temporary protection against the import into Australia of certain non-adjustable spanners falling within tariff item 82.03.200.

Requests for temporary protection are initially considered by the department concerned and at a later stage they may be referred to the Temporary Assistance Authority for inquiry and report within 30 days of the date of reference. Any temporary protection which may be awarded on the recommendation of the Temporary Assistance Authority is in the nature of a holding action pending consideration of the general question of protection for the indigenous industry.

Interested parties who wish to make their views known on this application for temporary protection should write immediately to the Department of Industry and Commerce, Canberra ACT 2600.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319. Ref: CRE 1014/77

The citrus industry: public hearings. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 20 August 1976, reported a reference to the Industries Assistance Commission on the question whether assistance should be accorded the Australian citrus industry. It has now been announced that further public hearings will be held in the Council Chambers, Strawbridge Street, Berri, South Australia, commencing at 10.00 am on Wednesday, 5 October 1977 and in the Public Inquiry Room, Industries Assistance Commission, 16th Floor, 59 Goulburn Street, Sydney, NSW, commencing 10.00 am, Tuesday, 18 October 1977.

The hearing will be concerned with the growing, distribution and marketing of citrus fruit and the processing and marketing of derived products.

UK firms or trade associations intending to submit evidence at the public hearing, should advise the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Canberra ACT 2600, Australia, without delay. Evidence may be submitted either through the accredited agent of the firm or trade association concerned, or through the Australian-British Trade Association, 6th Floor, Dorland House, 18-20 Lower Regent Street, London SW1Y 4FW, tel. 01-930 2524, who will represent UK interests if authorised. The association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed in the preparation of a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319. Ref: CRE 1534/76

Bahrain

Port storage facilities: It has been announced that goods shipped to Bahrain must be moved within a two-month period from the port storage area. After that time cargo will be automatically transported to the Isa Town depot and the local merchants will be billed for the storage costs. A four-month period of grace will be allowed at Isa Town, but after that period all goods will be auctioned to the public.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 475/420.

Brazil

Files and rasps: reference prices. Customs Policy Council resolution no. 2972, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 16 June 1977, made extensive alterations to the reference prices incident on files and rasps, under tariff heading 82.03.04.00.

Inquiries and details of the new rates: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Parts for control apparatus. Customs Policy Council edital no. 845, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 7 June 1977, gave notice that the council was considering a proposed duty reduction for certain spare parts under tariff heading 85.19.90.99, by the creation of two 'ex' (exception) headings as follows:

Tariff no.	Goods	Duty rate	
		Present	Under study
85.19.90.99	Other spare parts	75%	
	'ex' For apparatus of heading 85.19.03.01		37%
	'ex' For apparatus of heading 85.19.03.99		15%

Headings 85.19.03.01 and 85.19.03.99 refer to automatic control

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Export (CRE) Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension.

apparatus with contact breakers in oil, liquid, gas or compressed air weighing up to and over 2000 kg respectively.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Imports into the Manaus free zone. Decree no. 79 772, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 6 June 1977, increased the global limits on imports into the Manaus free zone from $320 million to $350 million. As previously, these limits do not apply to imports of wheat or petroleum.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Parts for electronics. Customs Policy Council edital no. 846, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 7 June 1977, gave notice that the council was considering a proposed duty reduction on parts for electronics from 25 per cent to 0 per cent by means of an 'ex' (exception) heading as follows:

Tariff no.	Goods	Duty rate Present	Proposed
38.19.99.00	Other 'ex' Chemical elements (such as silicon or selenium), impure (doped) cut to the form of discs, small sheets or similar forms, polished or not, whether or not coated with one uniform epitaxial coating	25%	0%

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Reference prices on dolls. Customs Policy Council resolution no. 2971, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 16 June 1977, made alterations to the reference prices incident on dolls, of tariff heading 97.02.01.00. Details of the new rates are available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Low density polyethylene. Customs Policy Council resolution no. 2973, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 22 June 1977, reduced the import duty incident on low density polyethylene, of tariff heading 39.02.02.02, from 45 per cent to 25 per cent for a period up to 31 December 1977.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Hypodermic needles. Customs Policy Council resolution no. 2975, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 22 June 1977, increased the import duty incident on hypodermic needles, of tariff heading 90.17.01.02, from 55 per cent to 85 per cent.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Threo-1-p-nitrophenyl-2-amino-1,3-propanodiole. Customs Policy Council edital no. 849, published in the *Diario Oficial* of 22 June 1977, gave notice that the council was considering a proposed increase in the duty incident on threo-1-p-nitrophenyl-2-amino-1,3-propanodiole, under tariff heading 29.35.51.00, from its current rate of 25 per cent to 55 per cent.

No further information is available at present.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Duty changes on chemicals. Customs Policy Council resolution nos. 2974, 2976 and 2977, all published in the *Diario Oficial* of 22 June 1977, made changes in the rates of duty incident on certain chemicals as follows:

Tariff no.	Goods	Duty rate New	Old
29.04.34.00	Propylene glycol, industrial and pharmaceutical grades	45%	15%
29.08.99.00	Dipropylene glycol and tripropylene glycol	45%	15%
29.30.03.00	Sodium cyclohexyl sulphamate	45%	15%
29.35.50.00	Magnesium phenyldimethyl pyrazolone methylamine metasulphonate (magnesium dipyrone)	35%	15%

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Canada

Investigation into imports of footwear. Several notices have appeared recently in *Trade and Industry* about the Canadian Anti-Dumping Tribunal's inquiry into imports of footwear; the final hearings were held on 9 June in Ottawa.

The Canadian Minister for Industry, Trade and Commerce announced on 20 June that an interim report would be made by 15 July in respect of imports of women's and girls' footwear. This action follows an agreement by the Anti-Dumping Tribunal that it would submit an interim report on any sector, if, in its opinion, imports of such goods into Canada were causing, or likely to cause immediate serious injury to Canadian production.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5397.

Cayman Islands

Tariff amendments. By law 12 of 1977, the Cayman Island authorities have amended certain items in the Cayman tariff as follows:

Item no.	Description of goods	Rate of duty
17.02	Condiment sets, cutlery and ornamental articles made of or plated with precious metal	Free
17.03	Jewellery of precious metals, precious and semi-precious stones and imitation jewel stones	Free
20.01	Agricultural tractors and accessories thereto	Free
20.02	Agricultural equipment of all kinds including permanent plant, building units and appliances for local agricultural productive purposes other than transport or the processing of non-agricultural by-products, but including animal husbandry, hydroponics, fish farming, plant and crop cultivation and the preservation, preparation, packing and marketing of foodstuff and other produce of the soil, certified as such by the Chief Agriculture and Veterinary Officer Provided that such products admitted duty-free shall be subject to full duty if diverted to any other purpose	Free

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 7312/456/457.

Chile

Tariff amendments. Chilean Ministry of Finance decree no. 551, published in the *Diario Oficial* on 30 June 1977, reduces until 31 December 1977 the rates of import duty on the following items (previous rates shown in parentheses:)

Tariff no.	Commodity	Duty rate
55.01	Cotton, not carded or combed	5% (10%)
55.02	Cotton linters	5% (10%)

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Colombia

Duty amendments. Decree no. 1046 of 10 May 1977 has reduced the rate of duty for the following items (previous rates shown in parentheses):

Tariff no.	Commodity	Duty rate
15.02.02.01	Fats of bovine cattle, sheep or goats denaturalised	15% (20%)
15.07.01.01	Crude vegetable oil	1% (15%)
15.07.01.02	Purified or refined vegetable oil	5% (20%)
34.01.00.00	Soap	40% (55%)
70.06.02.01	Cast, rolled, drawn or blown glass smooth, not wired	20% (40%)
70.06.03.01	Other with thickness greater than 6 mm (inc): smooth, not wired	20% (40%)
84.51.01.99	Typewriters, other	40% (50%)
84.51.02.99	Non-electric typewriters, other	40% (50%)
84.51.03.00	Cheque writing machines	40% (55%)
84.53.00.00	Statistical machines	40% (50%)
84.54.01.00	Copying machines	40% (50%)
84.54.89.01	Addressing machines	40% (65%)
84.54.89.02	Coin-sorting, coin-counting and coin-wrapping machines	40% (62%)
84.54.89.04	Perforating, stapling and staple removing machines	40% (55%)
84.54.89.99	Other	40% (65%)

The following additional note to chapter 84 of the customs tariff has been established:

A 20 per cent customs duty is hereby imposed on complete machines, or incomplete machines presenting the essential characteristics of the former, imported for assembly

and classifiable under headings 84.51 through 84.54, both included.
The parts, loose pieces and accessories imported as spare parts for said machinery are subject to their own customs duty rules.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Finland

Price control. The Finnish authorities have published law 105/77 which, under section 12 of the Price Control Act (156/74), provides for the establishment of maximum prices for certain goods falling in CCCN chapters 04, 09, 11, 15, 16, 17, 21, 23, 27 and 31.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Gabon

Import regulations. The system of prior authorisation to import has been temporarily suspended, until the end of August 1977, except for items prohibited for security and health reasons and items subject to quotas such as those competitive with local products.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 472/471/473/462.

Indonesia

Exemptions to textile import regulations. With reference to notices published in *Trade and Industry*, 4 February and 18 March 1977, respectively – the following CCCN headings are exempted from the regulations:

50.09.10 – 100 per cent silk cloth (grey); 51.04.20 – 100 per cent nylon cloth, polyester cloth and acetate cloth; 51.04.40 51.04.50 – waterproof umbrella cloth of 100 per cent nylon or polyester dyed or printed; 56.07.20 – 100 per cent rayon cloth; 59.17.10 – cloth for monyl screen printing; 59.17.90 – filter cloth.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 469/401/468.

Republic of Ireland

Changes in customs procedures. As the final stages of the transitional measures provided for in the treaty of accession to the European communities were reached on 1 July 1977, changes in customs procedures took effect on that date in respect of the following:

CERTIFICATES OF ORIGIN
Certificates of origin forms CU 166, CU 168, CU 119 and CU 120A will not be accepted as evidence of origin in support of claims to
1 United Kingdom, Northern Ireland, Commonwealth, Canadian, Australian and South African preferential rates of duty,
2 exemptions from import prohibitions or restrictions, or
3 exemption from anti-dumping duty
except in the case of certain horticultural goods and certain footwear. Certificates of origin forms CU 167 and CU 120B will not be accepted in respect of any goods.

COMMUNITY TRANSIT DOCUMENTS
Goods in intra-community trade which are no longer chargeable with customs duties or other charges having equivalent effect should be accompanied by community transit documents in the T2 series in order to qualify for community preference. As a concession, however, transit forms in the T3 series will continue to be accepted for such goods until 31 December 1977.

DIRECT TRADE WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM
A simplified procedure is being introduced which provides for the acceptance of a copy of the relevant export declaration as the equivalent of a community transit status document for the purpose of establishing the community status of goods.

Full information on the changes is contained in revenue commissioners notice no. 1458. Copies are now available from OTAR.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 466/467/288.

CRE Commercial Relations and Exports Divisions
Tel. Direct dialling (see end of each notice)

OTAR Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section
Tel. 01-248 5757 (extension at end of each notice)

Israel

Import duty amendments. Amendments have been issued to the Israeli customs tariff affecting the following CCCN numbers:

09.02 29.25 29.35 30.02 38.17 39.07 59.04 73.10 84.15 84.19 84.27 84.33 84.40 84.59 84.65 87.02 92.11

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Malta

Embargo on cigarettes. The Maltese authorities have announced that a temporary embargo has been placed on the importation of cigarettes which are intended for sale duty paid. The duration of this measure is not at present known.

Cigarettes already on order or in bond will be allowed to enter Malta in the normal manner.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Oman

Agency legislation. With reference to previous notices in *Trade and Industry*, the following additional information has been received:

1 All agency agreement applications for registration must be accompanied by the 'Contract of Agency' certified by a local chamber of commerce in the UK and then attested by the Omani embassy in London;
2 It is understood that the Ministry of Commerce and Industry is refusing to register more than one application for each of a company's product.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5221.

South Africa

Fertilisers. South African government notice no. 119/1977, published in *Government Gazette* no. 5583 of 10 June 1977, brings into into force sections 1-6, 8-14 and 16-22 (inclusive) of the Fertilisers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Products and Stock Remedies Amendment Act 1977 (Act 24 of 1977) with effect from 10 June 1977.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 471/462/472/473.

Customs tariff changes. The following amendments were published in the South African *Government Gazette* of 17 June 1977:

R.1042 CCCN 29.35 and 38.11: The rate of duty on atrazine and herbicides with atrazine as active ingredient is amended from 20 per cent or 315c/kg less 80 per cent of the fob price to 20 per cent or 340c/kg less 80 per cent of the fob price.

R.1043 CCCN 40.11, 87.02 and 87.04: The rate of duty on solid rubber tyres of a mass of 15 kg or more each but not exceeding 120 kg each imported as replacement equipment or as original equipment with unassembled motor vehicles classifiable in subheadings 87.02.22, 87.02.24, 87.02.60, 87.02.67 and 87.02.70 and assembled and unassembled chassis classifiable in subheadings 87.04.20, 87.04.25 and 87.04.40, is amended from 550c/100 kg (general) and 370c/100 kg (preferential) to 20 per cent plus 180c/100 kg (general) and 20 per cent (preferential).

R.1061 CCCN 98.02: Tariff heading 98.02 is restated and the rates of duty on slide fasteners and parts thereof are amended.

ANTI-DUMPING DUTIES
R.1062 Item 220.05: Deletion of tariff heading 98.02. The provision for an ordinary anti-dumping duty on metal parts of slide fasteners is withdrawn.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 471/472/462/473.

Spain

Alcoholic beverages: import regulations. The Spanish *State Gazette* of 21 April 1977, published an order of 20 April 1977 establishing special temporary arrangements for the import of certain alcoholic beverages.

An English translation of this order is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 461/458/459/460.

Beer and cold drinks. The Spanish *State Gazette* of 3 May 1977, published a resolution of the Directorate General of Home Trade, specifying the amount of the compulsory deposit on containers and packs in the sale of beer and cold drinks.

An English translation of the resolution is available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 461/458/459/460.

Butadiene and raw cocoa beans: duty suspended. The Spanish *State Gazette* of 24 June 1977, published royal decree 1415/1977 of the Ministry of Commerce announcing the suspension of import duty on butadiene, CCCN 29.01.A.1, valid from 10 May to 9 August 1977.

The Spanish *State Gazette* of 1 July 1977, published royal decree 1214/1977 of the Ministry of Commerce suspending the import duty to be paid on the importation of raw cocoa beans, CCCN 18.01.A, valid from 21 June to 20 September 1977.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 461/458/459/460.

United States

Investigation into bolts, nuts and screws. The International Trade Commission has started an investigation to determine whether certain bolts, nuts and screws are being imported into the United States in such increased quantities as to be a substantial cause of serious injury or threat to the domestic industry. A public hearing will be held on 11 October 1977 in Washington. Requests for appearances must be with the Secretary of the ITC by 6 October.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5629.

Importation of motor vehicles and engines. In the *Federal Register*, 23 June 1977, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced a review of the current regulations relating to the importation of motor vehicles and engines ensuring that they conform to United States emission standards. The EPA intends to improve the administrative efficiency and enforcement of the regulations. Proposed regulations should be published in the *Federal Register* in September.

Written views and comments by 25 July 1977 to Director, Mobile Source Enforcement Division (EN-340), Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street, SW, Washington DC 20460.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Regulations for emission standards. In the *Federal Register*, 28 June 1977, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) republished the 1977, 1978 and 1979 model year motor vehicle certification regulations for emission standards. The regulations were republished in order to incorporate the numerous amendments that have been made to the regulations since they were last published in a complete form in the *Federal Register*, 1 July 1976. No changes have been made in the certification requirements.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Noise labelling standards. The *Federal Register*, 22 June, published rules proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency to establish general provisions of a product noise-labelling regulatory programme with respect to the majority of products to be considered for possible noise labelling action. Written comments should be sent by 20 September 1977 to US Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Noise Abatement and Control, Washington DC 20460.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Glazing materials. The *Federal Register*, 20 June, published an amendment to the Safety Standard for Architectural Glazing Materials allowing the fabrication and sale of non-complying glazing that conforms to a voluntary standard to 5 July 1978. Manufacturers of glazing materials are excluded from the amendment.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Wine labelling. The *Federal Register*, 15 June, published a proposal by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms to amend regulations relating to 'Appelation of Origin', 'Estate bottled' labelling etc. Written comments (five copies) should be sent by 26 September to Director, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Washington DC 20226. Hearings in Washington and San Francisco.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Dairy products: identity standards. The *Federal Register*, 10 June, published rules proposed by the Food and Drug Administration to establish identity standards for cultured and acidified buttermilk for yogurts, various types of milk and for egg nog. Written comments (four copies) should be sent by 8 September 1977 to Food and Drug Administration, Room 4-65, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Special steels quotas. The International Trade Commission will hold public hearings on 23 August 1977 in connection with its investigation into the probable economic effect on domestic industry if the quotas were reduced or abolished. Requests to appear must be made to the ITC by 18 August.

The quota restriction on bearing steel TSUS item 923.25 was ended on 17 June by presidential proclamation.

A new quota period has now opened. The following table, derived from statistics made available by the US Customs Service, shows the products which are subject to quotas, the US quotas from the EEC for the 12 months 14 June 1977 to 13 June 1978, and US imports of the products concerned from the EEC during this period, as at 1 July 1977:

Pounds weight

Product	US import quotas for 12 months 14 June 1977 to 13 June 1978	US imports during this period as at 1 July 1977
Sheet and strips of stainless steel (item 923.20)	32 600 000	2 143 877
Plates of stainless steel (item 923.21)	6 000 000	377 708
Bars of stainless steel (item 923.22)	5 200 000	338 840
Wire rods of stainless steel (item 923.23)	15 200 000	Quota filled
Bearing steel (item 923.25)	7 000 000	68 929
Alloy tool steel (item 923.26)	7 000 000	Quota filled

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5629.

Uruguay

Further details of the single import duty. Decree 285 of 25 May 1977, published in the *Official Gazette* of 21 June, gives details of the new import duties to be levied under the 'Impuesto Aduanero Unico a la Importacion' (IMADUNI).

The new duty rates are in multiples of 25 per cent and only goods which previously paid an *ad valorem* duty are affected by this decree. Goods with an *ad valorem* duty rate of less than 25 per cent remain unaffected.

Details of the new duties for goods for which duty was previously assessed on a valuation ('Aforo') have not yet been published.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Registered trade marks

The lists of tariff, customs and import regulation changes in overseas countries published in this section of *Trade and Industry* sometimes contain words which are registered trade marks in the United Kingdom. So far as is practicable, all lists of goods are checked before publication from this point of view. Items which fall into this category are preceded by the letters rtm. Readers should note that this prefix signifies that the words are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom but that in the present context are assumed to refer generally to products of the descriptions stated in brackets. While every attempt will be made to ensure that the scrutiny is complete, the lists may contain other words which are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom or in other countries but which it has not been possible to identify.

Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series are seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
			Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Distributive and service industries excl. shipping	Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Wholesalers	of which: Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index Series in Stock level at end-1976	1970	£ million	£ million			£ million				£ million		
						18,218	10,404	1,830	1,977			
1970	100.0	31,644	9,453	2,130	1,799	442	325	68	−14	733	−25	758
1971	101.7	32,505	9,681	1,991	1,930	99	−148	52	22	1,087	280	807
1972	104.3	34,402	9,870	1,739	2,071	39	−145	48	15	131	−702	833
1973	110.2	36,003	10,279	1,872	2,390	1,127	404	102	382	−752	−2,334	1,582
1974	109.9	35,590	10,124	2,024	2,289	602	666	81	−111	−3,380	−5,221	1,841
1975	107.7	35,234	9,991	1,737	1,970	−680	−392	−111	−23	−1,635	−3,195	1,560
1976	108.9	35,290	9,556	1,651	1,901	−2	5	23	1	−1,423	−3,592	2,169
1975 1st qtr.	109.5	8,988	2,534	471	492	−125	18	−31	−38	−544	−947	403
2nd qtr.	107.4	8,833	2,474	444	498	−267	−105	−54	−66	−295	−655	360
3rd qtr.	106.6	8,724	2,540	416	501	−208	−234	−29	38	−566	−967	401
4th qtr.	107.4	8,689	2,443	406	480	−80	−70	4	43	−230	−626	396
1976 1st qtr.	109.1	8,811	2,460	402	452	25	31	24	12	−80	−538	458
2nd qtr.	108.2	8,730	2,394	408	478	−97	−115	−22	−55	−439	−919	480
3rd qtr.	108.3	8,824	2,392	418	484	−22	4	10	22	−536	−1,148	612
4th qtr.	110.0	8,925	2,310	422	486	92	86	11	22	−368	−987	619
1977 1st qtr.	109.1	8,720	2,235	414	478	255	180	52	80	−294	−954	660
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	+1.2	+0.5	−5.0	−2.0	−2.0							
on a year earlier	+1.2	+0.8	−7.2	+1.0	—							

	Industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs (NOT seasonally adjusted)					Labour (UK)			Visible trade (Volume)	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Retail prices	% increase on a year earlier	Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: basic materials and fuel used	Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: manufactured products: home sales	Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: mid-month count	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: % of total employees	Unfilled vacancies for adults: mid-month count	Export	Import
	at 1970 prices		at 1971 prices	monthly averages									On a balance of payments basis: at 1970 prices	
Base of index £m in base year Series in	1970	1970	1971 15,895	thousands	Jan. 1974		1970	1970	July 1972	thousands		thousands	1970 7,907	1970 7,932
1971	100.5	99.7	100.0	108.5	153.4†	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	775.8	3.4	130.9	106.7	104.2
1972	102.7	102.4	105.8	138.6	164.3†	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	854.9	3.7	147.3	107.1	116.7
1973	110.3	110.0	110.7	137.1	179.4†	9.2	144.5	123.2	115.6	611.0	2 6	307.0	122.2	133.8
1974	106.4	108.2	109.9	102 8	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	138.7	599.7ø	2.6ø	302.7ø	131.2	136.2
1975	101.3	101.7	107.9	97.2	134.8	24.2	235.4	188.7	179.8	929.0	3.9	150.0ø	125.6	126.4
1976	102.2	103.4	108.1	104.7	157.1	16.5	299.0	219.6	214.5	1,269.8ø	5.4ø	120.4ø	135.9	134.2
1976 1st qtr.	101.9	102.0	107.3	103	149.4	22.5	266.5	206.9	205.5	1,220.3	5.2	116.7	131.5	126.1
2nd qtr.	102.4	103.6	107.6	106	154.9	16.0	292.6	214.4	212.8	1,252.1	5.3	119.4	137.1	134.6
3rd qtr.	101.5	103.5	108.9	97	158.5	13.7	306.8	223.2	218.6	1,305.5	5.5	123.6	134.2	137.9
4th qtr.	103.2	104.5	108.5	113	165.8	15.0	329.9	233.9	220.6	1,316.8ø	5.6ø	..	140.8	138.1
1977 1st qtr.	103.3 p	105.4 p	105.0	104	174.1	16.5	341.5	248.0	224.6 p	1,330.2	5.6		140.3	142.0
2nd qtr.							347.7 p	259.2 p						
1976 May	104.4	106.4	106.8	110	155.2	15.4	292.0	214.8	211.7	1,253.3	5.3	120.0	137.2	134.7
June	100.4	101.1	107.3	91	156.0	13.8	299.6	217.0	216.6	1,261.1	5.3	115.7	138.5	137.1
July	101.4	103.7	108.8	91	156.3	12.9	302.0	219.8	219.0	1,288.9	5.5	118.6	130.4	139.4
Aug.	100.6	102.5	108.9	115	158.5	13.8	304.0	223.4	219.1	1,308.8	5.6	126.2	134.9	133.7
Sept.	102.4	104.4	108.9	86	160.6	14.3	314.4	226.3	219.2	1,318.7	5.6	125.9	137.3	140.4
Oct.	102.8	104.7	108.1	109	163.5	14.7	327.7	230.0	219.5	1,307.9	5.5	124.5	140.8	140.6
Nov.	103.5	104.9	109.2	119	165.8	15.0	331.8	234.6	220.7	..	..	..	138.1	140.1
Dec.	103.3	103.8	108.3	111	168.0	15.1	330.2	237.2	221.5	1,325.7 e	5.6 e	..	143.3	133.6
1977 Jan.	103.4	105.1	106.7	93	172.4	16.6	337.8	244.9	223.8	1,338.2	5.7	..	140.6	153.6
Feb.	103.3	105.7	105.7	118	174.1	16.2	339.5	248.2	224.8	1,331.4	5.6	150.5	138.0	133.7
Mar.	103.1	105.5	103.1	102	175.8	16.7	347.2	250.8	225.2	1,321.1	5.6	157.3	142.9	139.4
Apr.	103.2	104.7	103.4	108	180.3	17.5	349.7	255.4	226.0	1,322.6	5.6	158.5	148.8	138.6
May			104.4	108	181.7	17.1	348.2 p	259.7 p	226.8 p	1,315.9	5.6	161.2	145.3 p	142.4 p
June							345.1 p	262.4 p		1,352.8 p	5.7	157.8 p		
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	−0.2	+0.7	−3.2	−1.2	+4.5		+1.8	+4.5	+1.2	—			+3½	–
on a year earlier	+0.9	+2.7	−3.1	−3.0	+17.1		+18.8	+20.9	+7.7	+6.3			+7½	+7½

p Provisional pe Preliminary estimate † Base of index Jan. 1962 = 100 .. not available ø Average of available months e estimate **Inquiries:** 01-215 3453

Regional selective assistance: offers of £10,000 or more

The table shows offers of £10,000 or more made since 31 July 1974 under section 7 of the Industry Act 1972 against which a first payment to the company concerned was made in the period 1 January to 31 March 1977. Offers of interest relief grant with a loan equivalent of £10,000 or more are also shown. **Inquiries:** 01-211 4216

Area and company	Type of assistance (see notes at foot of table)	Amount of assistance committed (£)	Standard industrial classification (minimum list heading) : the activity involved is production unless otherwise stated	Reason (see notes at foot of table)
Scotland				
Air Products Ltd	IRG	362 600	Industrial gases	A
Balbardie Ltd	IRG	13 720	Fire-fighting equipment	A
Caird (Dundee) Ltd	IRG	100 000	Carpet backing	A
Cleland Jamieson	IRG	5 000	Soft furnishings	A
J. and P. Coats (UK) Ltd	IRG	34 300	Household textiles distribution	A
Collins (Glasgow) Ltd	LN	525 000	Ladies' and children's clothing	B
Cumbernauld Timber Products Ltd	IRG	3 780	Timber	A
Elcomatic Ltd	IRG	18 200	Transducers	A
Glenmac Knitwear	IRG	27 650	Knitwear	A
IU Valve Systems International Ltd	IRG	67 500	Valves and hydraulic actuators	A
Jaeger Tailoring Ltd	IRG	152 000	Ladies' clothing	A
Gordon Lennox (Knitwear) Ltd	IRG	3 600	Knitwear	A
Loanhead Engineering Ltd	IRG	3 900	Metal fences	A
Metal Box Ltd	IRG	79 500	Cans	A
Munro Petrosea Ltd	IRG	22 000	Electrical coils	A
Norce Fabrications Ltd	IRG	8 750	Metal fabricators	A
Norstar Turkeys Ltd	IRG	67 500	Turkeys	A
Printabox Ltd	IRG	78 400	Paper and board	A
Seigi Engineering Co Ltd	IRG	6 000	Refurbishers of non-mechanical building equipment	A
Sidlaw Industries Ltd	IRG	9 625	Textile processing	A
Sidlaw Industries Ltd	IRG	594 000	Jute fabric	B
Singer Co (UK) Ltd	IRG+RG	371 625	Sewing machines	A
Tandberg (Electronics) Ltd	LN+IRG	756 000	Colour tv sets	A
Telcon Magnetic Cores Ltd	IRG	13 200	Electrical equipment	A
Tweedbank Surgical Engineering Ltd	IRG	24 500	Surgical instruments	A
Walker of Greengairs Ltd	IRG	7 350	Steel fabricators	A
Willie Wonderful Ltd	IRG	2 963	Clothing	A
Total		3 358 663		
Wales				
AB Electronic Components Ltd	IRG	27 500	Electronic components	A
Barton Manufacturing Co Ltd	IRG	9 000	Clothing	A
The Crescent Toy Co Ltd	LN	300 000	Toys	B
Cynon Valley Engineering Contractors Ltd	LN	35 000	General engineering	A
Duport Ltd	IRG×2	2 241 000	Steel foundry	B
Fred Gilbert (Cardiff) Ltd	IRG	7 200	Mechanical engineering	A
P. Leiner and Sons Ltd	LN	200 000	Pharmaceuticals	A
A. D. Lloyd	IRG	4 000	Road surfacing	A
Mid Wales Yarn Ltd	IRG	45 000	Yarn spinning	A
W. B. Thompson Engineering Co Ltd	IRG+RG	9 500	Light engineering	A
Wrexham Wire Co Ltd	LN	50 000	Wire	B
Total		2 928 200		
Yorkshire/Humberside				
Aven Tools Ltd	IRG	2 912	Engineers' cutting tools	A
Bantin and Kingman Ltd	IRG	5 955	Laboratory animal breeding	A
F. K. Booth Ltd	IRG	1 730	Wire working	A
W. E. Burnand Ltd	IRG	45 080	Scrap recovery equipment	A
Cocker Brothers Ltd	IRG	47 454	Laminated springs	A
The Colne Vale Dye and Chemical Co Ltd	IRG	3 850	Dyestuffs	A
Coventry Climax Engines Ltd	IRG	157 005	Loading vehicles	A
Denholme Silk Weavers Ltd	IRG	4 200	Weaving	A
Don Valley Engineering Co Ltd	IRG	13 564	Screens and centrifuges	A
Dun-Fab Ltd	IRG	7 420	Steel fabricators	A
E and K Engineering Co Ltd	IRG	4 052	Steel fabricators	A
Edgar Allen Engineering Ltd	IRG	22 168	Trackwork engineering	A
Grimsby Polythene Ltd	IRG	12 220	Extrusion of polythene	A
Hadee Engineering Ltd	IRG	8 007	Steel fabricators	A
John Haggas (Fur Fabrics) Ltd	IRG	53 550	Knitted pile fabrics	A
Thomas Haynes (Engineers) Ltd	IRG	5 254	Lifting tackle engineers	A
Kelan Engineering Ltd	IRG	4 978	Electronic components	A
Maitland Menswear Ltd	IRG	18 423	Menswear	A
Edward Marsden Ltd	IRG	83 568	Printing ink	A
Norman Marsh (Carnaby) Ltd	IRG	3 076	Agricultural engineers	A
Marston Paxman Ltd	IRG	49 567	Refrigeration and air conditioning equipment	A
Midland Bank Ltd	IRG+RG×3	1 794 830	Banking	A
Mount Charlotte Investments Ltd	RG×3	35 638	Financial services	A
Myson Pumps Ltd	IRG+RG	11 712	Hydraulic cylinders	A
New Plan Furniture Ltd	IRG	2 944	Furniture	A
J. Newsome and Sons Ltd	IRG	29 594	Woollen manufacturers	A
Northern Printing Machinery Ltd	IRG	12 920	Printing machinery repairs	A
Plibrico Co Ltd	IRG+RG	54 682	Monolithic refractories	A
Tanks and Drums Ltd	IRG	7 560	Plastic drums	A
Teckno Developments Ltd	IRG	5 926	PVC products	A
WBC (Packings) Ltd	IRG+RG	10 630	Paper converters	A
Total		2 520 469		
North West				
Barclays Bank Ltd	RG×2	114 700	Banking	A
Barclays Bank Ltd	RG×2	100 000	Banking	A
Beloit Walmsley Ltd	IRG	222 000	Paper making machinery	B
Bootham Engineers Group Ltd	IRG	3 360	General engineering	A
Britannia Refining Co Ltd	IRG	162 400	Dealing in edible oil	A
M. A. Buckley (Engraving) Ltd	IRG	6 000	Engraving machinery	A
Chloride Industrial Batteries Ltd	IRG	723 000	Batteries	A
Colne Ribbon Co Ltd	IRG	2 520	Textiles	
Dawnpress Ltd	IRG	29 150	Plywood and insulated cellular panels	A
Eversure Textiles Ltd	IRG	16 000	Textiles	A
Fillite (Runcorn) Ltd	IRG	8 670	Filler powder	A
Gorton Tool Service Ltd	IRG	1 798	Precision engineering	A
Hargreaves and Gott Ltd	IRG	6 400	Metal manufacture	A
Hewitt, Brannan (Tools) Co Ltd	IRG	12 420	Engineering tools	A
Howorth Packaging Ltd	IRG	8 400	Packaging	A
Hunter Gravure Transfers Ltd	IRG	61 600	Printed paper to fabric printers	A
Hy-Ten Reinforcement Co Ltd	IRG	18 000	Steel mesh	A
Ibstock Building Products Ltd	IRG	86 625	Bricks	A
Lancashire Tax Distillers Ltd	IRG	3 120	Chemicals	A
Lancashire Tax Distillers Ltd	IRG	10 920	Pipeline enamel	A
Learoyd Paper Mills Ltd	IRG	14 840	Packaging	A
F. H. Lee (Paper Converters) Ltd	IRG	28 575	Paper converters	A
Liquid Abrasive Processes Ltd	IRG	1 680	Machining services	A
Marsh (Vapour Controls) Ltd	IRG	2 750	Vapour control equipment	A
Mather and Platt Ltd	IRG	34 800	Electrical pump testing	A
Moorlite Electrical Ltd	IRG	50 400	Lighting equipment	A
Norsemen (Rainwear) Ltd	IRG	3 900	Men's outerwear	A

Area and company	Type of assistance (see notes at foot of table)	Amount of assistance committed (£)	Standard industrial classification (minimum list heading): the activity involved is production unless otherwise stated	Reason (see notes at foot of table)
North West Alloys (Products) Ltd	IRG	17 500	Foundry products	A
Parker Timber (Northern) Ltd	IRG	6 696	Timber	A
Pickering Locstitch Ltd	IRG	77 000	Textile machinery	A
Planit Kitchens Ltd	IRG	9 996	Furniture	A
N. and C. Plasters Ltd	IRG	2 187	Electroplating	A
Precision Turning Co Ltd	IRG	6 125	Precision engineering	A
Rockcliff Brothers Ltd	LN	18 000	Printing	A
RTZ Extruders Ltd	IRG	40 800	Aluminium extrusions	A
Shaws of Darwen Ltd	IRG	57 200	Non-refractory goods	A
The Sinex Engineering Co Ltd	IRG+RG	10 849	Mechanical handling equipment	A
Souplex Ltd	IRG	9 787	Plastic moulding	A
H. Steele (Fabrications) Ltd	IRG	6 429	Fabricators	A
TDS Circuits (Blackburn) Ltd	IRG	4 680	Printed circuits	A
Thorndyke Welding (Heywood) Ltd	IRG	1 670	Fabricators	A
Threadgrade Ltd	IRG	3 850	General engineering	A
Tillotsons (Liverpool) Ltd	IRG	331 500	Packaging	B
R. C. Walmsley Ltd	IRG	36 000	Packaging	A
Peter Ward and Co (Burnley) Ltd	IRG	13 825	Hardware products	A
J. A. Whittle and Son Ltd	IRG	7 995	Builders, shopfitters	A
Total		2 396 117		
Northern				
ADC Electrical Co Ltd	IRG	5 100	Electrical equipment	A
Automotive Products Ltd	IRG+RG	124 320	Motor components	A
Barclays Bank Ltd	RG×2	129 800	Banking	A
Be Modern Ltd	IRG	5 070	Kitchen furniture	A
Bowater PKL (UK) Ltd	IRG	94 000	Containers	A
Draeger Safety Ltd	IRG	37 000	Industrial safety equipment	A
Dunford Hepburn Ltd	IRG	9 284	Electronic control systems	A
Electrolux	IRG	181 655	Domestic appliances	A
Glynwed Distribution Ltd	IRG+RG	32 100	Distribution (fasteners)	A
Hertel (UK) Ltd	IRG	7 056	Fabricators	A
Independent Polyethylene Extruders Ltd	IRG	46 800	Polythene sheeting	A
JJ Electronic Components Ltd	IRG	5 760	Electronic components	A
Knight-Fletcher Print Ltd	IRG	3 162	Printing	A
Liner Concrete Machinery Co Ltd	IRG	148 500	Construction equipment	A
Marshall Richards Barcro Ltd	G	300 000	Wire drawing machinery	B
Milligans Bakery Ltd	IRG	2 220	Bakery and confectionery	A
NSF Timers Ltd	IRG+RG	66 400	Cooker controls	A
J. W. Ramsay	IRG	3 145	Bakery and confectionery	A
Rotaprint	IRG+RG	184 410	Duplicating machinery	A
Seagull Products Ltd	IRG	14 700	Travel goods	A
Shield Packaging Ltd	IRG	175 000	Packaging	A
Sykes (Soft Drinks) Ltd	IRG	11 300	Soft drinks	A
John H. Taylor	IRG	26 700	Farm machinery	A
Tyne Tees Filtration Ltd	IRG	1 440	Textiles	A
Tyneside Printers Ltd	IRG	44 000	Printing	A
Victor Products Ltd	IRG	30 155	Drilling equipment	A
Work Dry Ltd	IRG	7 800	Pumping equipment	A
Total		1 696 937		
South West				
British Plastics Developments Ltd	IRG	33 600	Plastic mouldings	A
Devon Group Feedingstuffs Ltd	IRG	20 400	Animal feedstuffs	A
Lesney Products and Co Ltd	IRG	26 120	Toys	A
Macdonald and Evans Ltd	RG	18 460	Publishing	A
Roffs Prints Ltd	IRG	6 960	Security printing	A
Selkirk Metalbestos Division Ltd	IRG	17 415	Prefabricated ventilation systems	A
Suremanor Ltd	IRG	17 040	Ladies' outerwear	A
Total		149 995		
East Midlands				
British Furnaces Ltd	IRG	8 900	Industrial furnaces	A
CE Sheeting Ltd	IRG+RG	1 944	Industrial and farm trailers	A
Dexion-Comino International Ltd	IRG+RG	27 080	Conveyors	A
Fusion Equipment Ltd	IRG	6 600	Hand tools	A
Goya International Ltd	IRG	19 700	Manufacturing chemists	A
Markham and Co Ltd	IRG	11 500	Fabricators	A
Metry Steel Fabrication Co Ltd	IRG	3 500	Steel fabrication	A
S. A. Monk Ltd	IRG	45 000	Knitting machines	B
Newbourne Mouldings Ltd	IRG	14 760	Plastic products	A
Newman Granger (Engineering) Ltd	IRG+RG	55 000	Agricultural vehicle components	A
Parker Timber (Northern) Ltd	IRG+RG	12 247	Timber	A
W. and G. Sissons Ltd	IRG	14 600	Sheet metal engineers	A
The Stag Cabinet Co Ltd	IRG	24 775	Furniture	A
Stainless Steel Fasteners Ltd	IRG	1 800	Fasteners	A
Stevensons (Fabric Dyers) Ltd	IRG	11 600	Fabric dyeing	A
Trade Polythene Supplies (Midlands) Ltd	IRG	9 500	Polythene	A
Total		268 505		
Total amount of assistance committed		13 318 886		
Total amount paid in regional selective assistance during period		9 146 000		9146000

Notes:
IRG Interest relief grant
LN Loan
RG Removal grant
A New jobs being created
B Preservation of employment

Vehicle production: provisional estimate for June

Provisional estimates of United Kingdom vehicle production in the the five weeks ended 2 July 1977. More detailed production figures are due to be published on Thursday 28 July. Figures of new car registrations in June are due to be published by the Department of Transport on 22 July.

Thousands

	No. of weeks	Passenger cars: Recorded	Passenger cars: Seasonally adjusted (monthly average)	Commercial vehicles: Recorded	Commercial vehicles: Seasonally adjusted (monthly average)
1975	52	1 268	106	380.7	31.7
1976	53	1 333	111	372.1	31.0
1976 June	5	130	112	36.2	30.9
July	4	91	131	25.8	33.1
August	4	65	82	18.1	27.3
September	5	98	106	32.0	30.7
October	5	141	111	39.3	30.9
November	4	120	113	33.6	33.6
December	5	110	99	31.7	27.4
1977 January	4	115	119	33.4	37.5
February	4	91	95	32.4	34.0
March	5	112	93	41.0	34.9
April	4	106	126	28.3	31.0
May	4	134	124	37.6	35.4
June	5	113	99	32.5	28.0
January-March 1977			102		35.4
April-June 1977			116		31.5
Percentage change			+13		−11

Inquiries: 01-212 0788.

Retailers' stocks in May

Based on the non-seasonally adjusted data of table 1, the level of stocks at book value in May was 23 per cent higher than a year earlier; at constant prices the rise was 4 per cent.

The estimate of the value of the physical increase in retailers' stocks at 1970 prices and seasonally adjusted suggests a decrease of £35 million in May following the large increase in March and a smaller increase in April. The seasonally adjusted volume of retail sales fell sharply during the first quarter of 1977 but recovered a little in April and May. Despite the recent movements in stocks and sales the level of stocks remained comparatively high at the end of May compared with the level of sales.

Notes

The book value of retailers' stocks in the United Kingdom at end of December 1971 was £1,886 million.

With the introduction of VAT, the book values are being valued exclusive of this tax. There is, therefore, a discontinuity in the series in 1973 between March and April. For the year up to March, 1974, the usual comparisons with a year earlier for the book value series have not been given. From April, 1974, the basis of valuation is comparable with that of a year earlier and the percentages changes have been re-introduced. The estimates at constant prices take account of this method of valuation, and are on a consistent basis throughout.

For the estimates at constant prices, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with revaluation of the value series to constant prices become more acute. Thus, the relative accuracy with which constant price changes have been measured is likely to have been reduced in recent periods.

The statistics given in table 2 were introduced in an article in the issue of 28 March 1975.

Long-run series back to 1966 for both table 1 and table 2 were included in the article in the issue of 17 September 1976.

Inquiries: 01-215 3220.

TABLE 1 Level of retailers' stocks

Index numbers (end 1971 = 100) *and percentage increase on a year earlier* — At cost at end of month

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
All book values												
1971	89	91	94	95	95	97	95	95	98	106	110	100
1972	96	99	101	102	102	105	102	102	104	113	119	106
1973	103	107	112	112	112	117	116	118	123	134	143	132
1974	128	129	135	139	144	145	144	143	149	161	171	154
1975	148	151	158	154	159	161	160	160	170	187	201	181
1976	172	174	184	185	184	184	180	181	193	215	230	207
1977	199	203	223	227	227							
1972	8	8	8	7	8	8	7	8	7	7	8	6
1973	8	8	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1974	—	—	—	24	28	24	24	21	21	20	19	17
1975	15	17	17	11	11	11	11	12	15	16	18	18
1976	16	15	17	20	16	14	13	13	14	15	14	14
1977	16	17	21	23	23							
At constant (1970) prices												
1971	94	96	98	98	97	99	96	96	98	106	111	100
1972	95	97	100	100	100	102	99	99	101	108	114	101
1973	98	101	105	110	114	117	115	115	119	127	135	123
1974	118	117	120	121	122	121	119	117	119	126	132	117
1975	110	109	113	108	109	110	107	106	112	122	129	115
1976	108	109	114	113	112	112	108	108	113	124	130	115
1977	109	109	118	119	117							
1972	1	2	2	2	3	4	3	4	2	2	3	1
1973	3	4	5	10	13	15	16	16	18	18	19	22
1974	21	16	14	9	8	3	3	1	−1	−1	−2	−5
1975	−7	−6	−6	−11	−11	−10	−10	−9	−6	−4	−2	−1
1976	−1	−1	1	5	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	—
1977	1	—	3	4	4							

TABLE 2 Value of physical increase of retailers' stocks at 1970 prices

Seasonally adjusted — £ million

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1971	−11	3	−8	2	−12	17	−7	16	5	24	−14	7
1972	−7	9	−1	13	6	21	−16	25	−22	9	−6	−16
1973	34	25	23	106	57	42	15	21	12	3	11	33
1974	12	−50	—	33	25	−39	10	−24	−25	−4	−19	−30
1975	−19	−30	11	−76	20	−10	5	−6	39	41	15	−13
1976	−24	−10	46	−5	−25	−25	−14	5	31	52	−2	−28
1977	−7	−22	109	19	−35							

Wholesale price indices in June

Output prices

The provisional price index for the home sales of manufactured products increased by 1 per cent in June to 262.4 (1970 = 100).

The index for manufactured products other than food, drink and tobacco was ¾ per cent higher as a result of increases spread across all sectors. This index rose 3¾ per cent in the second quarter of 1977 compared with 3½ per cent in the same period last year.

The main contributors to the increase of 1¾ per cent in the provisional price index for the output of the food manufacturing industries were tea and bottled milk.

The change in the index for all manufactured products over the twelve months to June was 21 per cent, the same as in May.

Input prices

The provisional price index for materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry fell by 1 per cent to 345.1.

The index for materials purchased by manufacturing industry other than the food, drink and tobacco industries fell by 1 per cent. There were lower prices for many imported materials, particularly copper, zinc, lead, silver, cotton and hides and skins. This index is now at the same level as in January, reflecting the stability in the exchange rate of sterling against major foreign currencies over this period.

The index for coal, gas and electricity again rose by 1¼ per cent, with further gas price rises mainly responsible for the increase. The index has risen by 8 per cent in the second quarter.

Lower prices for a range of imported materials, particularly coffee and tea, were responsible for the fall of 1 per cent in the index for materials purchased by the food manufacturing industries, offsetting higher prices for milk for liquid consumption, pigs, cocoa beans and cocoa butter. In the second quarter, imported food material prices fell by 5½ per cent compared with an increase of 3¾ per cent for those produced at home.

	Apr	May p	Jun p
Output prices (home sales)			
All manufactured products	255.4	259.7	262.4
Products of manufacturing industry other than food, drink and tobacco industries	261.1	265.1	267.1
Products of the food manufacturing industries	276.4	283.5	288.7
Prices of materials and fuel purchased			
By manufacturing industry	349.7	348.2	345.1
materials	358.7	356.7	352.9
coal, gas and electricity	264.3	267.9	271.0
By manufacturing industry other than food, drink and tobacco industries	359.7	360.3	357.2
materials	373.3	373.4	369.5
By food manufacturing industries	327.6	322.0	319.3
materials	328.5	322.4	319.5

p = provisional.

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Wholesale textile houses: sales and stocks in April

Sales by wholesale textile houses in April showed an increase of 2 per cent on a year earlier, compared with an increase of 8 per cent in February and an increase of 7 per cent in March.

The value of stocks at the end of April showed an increase of 10 per cent compared with the same period last year.

Table 1 Textiles: wholesale sales and stocks

Index numbers and *percentage increase compared with a year earlier* 1950 = 100

		Value of home sales		Value of stocks end period	
1966		110	*−3*	..	..
1967		104	*−5*	..	..
1968		*108*	*4*	..	..
1969		103	*−5*	..	..
1970		107	*4*	..	..
1971		*115*	*8*	..	..
1972		121	*5*	..	..
1973		134	*11*	..	..
1974		*147*	*9*	..	..
1975		147	*1*	..	..
1976		146	*−1*	..	..
1974	1st quarter	134	*12*	189	*3*
	2nd quarter	131	*7*	202	*18*
	3rd quarter	*148*	*13*	*194*	*12*
	4th quarter	173	*6*	198	*−3*
1975	*1st quarter*	*143*	*7*	*219*	*16*
	2nd quarter	135	*3*	197	*−2*
	3rd quarter	146	*−1*	193	*−1*
	4th quarter	*165*	*−5*	*224*	*13*
1976	1st quarter	133	*−8*	234	*7*
	2nd quarter	*127*	*−6*	*212*	*8*
	3rd quarter	149	*2*	204	*6*
	4th quarter	176	*8*	228	*2*
1977	1st quarter	140	*5*	252	*7*
1976	*March*	*174*	*−1*	*234*	*7*
	April	136	*−9*	208	*7*
	May	*128*	*—*	*217*	*2*
	June	119	*−9*	212	*8*
	July	115	*−8*	221	*6*
	August	137	*9*	216	*5*
	September	194	*4*	204	*6*
	October	184	*−4*	208	*6*
	November	169	*−13*	229	*−1*
	December	175	*15*	228	*2*
1977	January	85	*−1*	221	*4*
	February	*148*	*8*	*248*	*9*
	March	186	*7*	252	*7*
	April	139	*2*	228	*10*

Table 2 Analysis by department

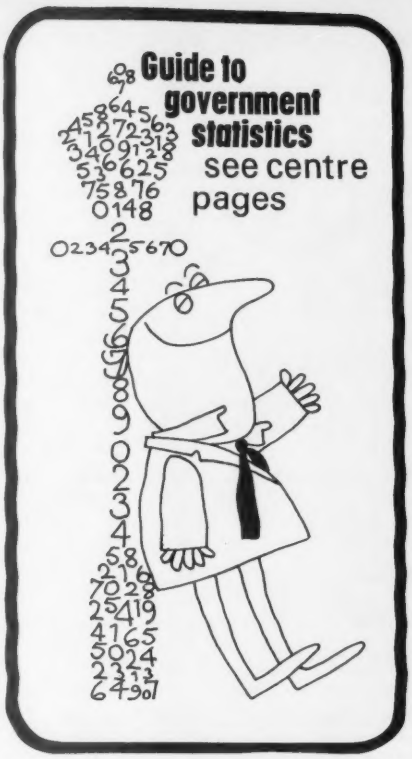
Percentage increase compared with a year earlier

	Sales		Stocks[1]
	Apr 1977	Jan-Apr 1977	Apr 1977
Women's knitted outerwear, blouses and skirts	19	11	34
Women's coats, costumes, furs and raincoats	−23	−18	28
Women's underwear	22	16	6
Women's hose and children's socks	13	16	14
Women's millinery	−19	−14	−14
Haberdashery, ribbons and wool	28	20	29
Children's wear	23	11	27
Men's and boys' shirts, pyjamas and outfitting	−5	2	−15
Gloves	12	6	35
Piece-goods and nets	−27	−10	−7
Household textiles	35	19	37
Floor coverings, furniture and hardware	−7	−1	2
Boots and shoes	32	31	25
Total[2]	2	4	10

[1] Including some items not included among the subheadings.
[2] Values at cost.

Inquiries

These statistics are prepared by Textile Distributors' Association. Inquiries should be addressed to the Secretary, Textile Distributors' Association, 3 Berners Street, London W1P 4JP (01-580 2902).



Exports of wool textile products

In the table on exports of wool textile products in *Trade and Industry*, 17 June 1977, page 561, the figures for exports of wool yarns in the first quarter 1977 given as £7.86 million and 2.47 million kilos should be amended to read £20.0 million and 5.02 million kilos.

Production of man-made fibres in April

In the three months ended April 1977 the volume of production of man-made fibres, *seasonally adjusted, was estimated to have* been 2 per cent less than in the three months *ended January 1977. Total production by weight of man-made fibres in January-April* 1977 was 3 per cent lower than in January-*April 1976, output of continuous filament* decreased by 4 per cent and staple fibre *decreased by 1 per cent.*

Man-made fibre production

Thousand metric tons

		Total	Continuous filament (singles)	Staple fibre
1968		539.1	241.8	297.4
1969		553.9	252.5	301.5
1970		599.4	257.6	341.9
1971		613.1	276.4	336.7
1972		626.5	264.0	362.5
1973		730.8	305.6	425.3
1974		627.6	271.0	356.6
1975		562.5	246.5	316.0
1976		618.4	270.7	347.7
1975	1st quarter	129.1	56.4	72.7
	2nd quarter	148.8	61.9	86.9
	3rd quarter	134.1	58.5	75.7
	4th quarter	150.4	69.7	80.7
1976	1st quarter	159.8	70.0	89.8
	2nd quarter	157.5	69.7	87.7
	3rd quarter	140.4	62.4	78.0
	4th quarter	160.7	68.6	92.1
1977	1st quarter	154.9	67.2	87.7
1976	January	53.3	24.1	29.2
	February	52.3	22.6	29.7
	March	54.1	23.2	30.9
	April	53.1	22.1	31.0
	May	53.6	23.9	28.6
	June	51.8	23.7	28.0
	July	46.7	21.1	25.6
	August	43.8	19.5	24.3
	September	49.9	21.8	28.1
	October	53.0	22.7	30.3
	November	54.3	23.3	31.0
	December	53.4	22.6	30.8
1977	January	49.1	20.9	28.2
	February	50.3	21.8	28.5
	March	55.5	24.5	31.0
	April	52.3	20.8	31.5

Index of the volume of production

1970 = 100

1968		87	
1969		92	
1970		100	
1971		106	
1972		107	
1973		127	
1974		111	
1975		101	
1976		112	
		Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1975	1st quarter	92	92
	2nd quarter	104	102
	3rd quarter	96	100
	4th quarter	112	109
1976	1st quarter	116	116
	2nd quarter	115	113
	3rd quarter	104	109
	4th quarter	115	113
1977	1st quarter	114	114
1976	January	116	121
	February	118	117
	March	113	110
	April	115	107
	May	114	113
	June	117	118
	July	105	107
	August	96	108
	September	111	110
	October	113	102
	November	120	116
	December	113	121
1977	January	106	108
	February	118	115
	March	118	117
	April	110	105

Inquiries: 01-212 0017 or 01-212 6474.

Production of North Sea crude oil: 'Energy Trends'

Gross production of North Sea crude oil in the first four months of 1977 was over 10 million tonnes. In the three months February-April this year, North Sea crude accounted for more than a third of total refinery receipts.

Total inland energy consumption – on a primary fuel input basis – for the three months February-April was 1.7 per cent higher than in the same period last year, after seasonal adjustment and temperature correction.

This is shown in *Energy Trends*, the Department of Energy's monthly statistical bulletin.

In April total consumption, allowing for temperature and seasonal correction, was over 5 per cent higher than last year, due largely to colder weather.

Coal – boost in power station consumption

Total coal consumption from March-May this year rose by 3.4 per cent and power station consumption was nearly 9 per cent higher than in the same months of last year.

Opencast coal production rose by over 6 per cent in the months March-May, but deep mined production fell by 1 per cent, leaving total production, at 33.1 million tons, still 0.3 million tons below last year's level.

Growth in gas demand continues

Gas sent out in the three month period March-May this year was 3.1 per cent higher than last year's level. Much of this was accounted for by colder weather in April and May.

Electricity – increasing use of coal and nuclear power

Coal accounted for 71.2 per cent of fuel used at power stations during the months February-April 1977, and nuclear power for 11.7 per cent. Oil and gas used for generation slipped back to 14.5 per cent and 0.8 per cent, respectively, as compared with 17.0 per cent and 2.8 per cent in the same months of 1976.

Total electricity supplied between February-April, at 68.13 terrawatt hours, was only slightly higher than in the corresponding period a year ago.

Petroleum – sharp drop in crude oil imports

Net arrivals of crude oil from overseas dropped by nearly 7 million tonnes – over 30 per cent – in the three months February-April this year, as a result of increased indigenous production.

Total inland deliveries of petroleum products in the months February-April this year were 3.5 per cent below last year's level.

Demand for fuel oil – mainly used for electricity generation – remained low, while deliveries of road transport fuels, motor spirit and DERV, increased by 2.3 and 2.5 per cent respectively.

Industrial fuel prices

The final table in this month's *Energy Trends* shows that prices for all industrial fuels – notably oil and gas – have continued to rise.

Inquiries: 01-211 6092.

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Registrations of British, community and foreign films

The table on the right shows films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 8 July 1977.

BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
BRITISH					
Three Jewels	BR/E 39237/10/7/82	19	5 July	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd	Global Films Ltd and Queensway Promotions Ltd
The Spy Who Loved Me	BR/E 39240/10/7/82	125	6 July	United Artists Corporation Ltd	Eon Productions Ltd
Movietone News 2509	BR/E 39176/10/7/82	8	8 July	British Movietonews Ltd	British Movietonews Ltd
COMMUNITY					
Fresh, Young and Sexy	EC 39233/10/7/82	85	4 July	Eagle Films Ltd	Roxy-Film GmbH and Co KG, Munich
Bed Neighbours	EC 39238/10/7/82	78	6 July	Tigon Film Distributors Ltd	Heroica Films, Paris
Small Change (L'Argent de Poche)	EC 39241/10/7/82	104	8 July	Gala Films Distributors Ltd	Les Films Du Carrosse, Productions Artistes Associes and Simar Films, Paris
FOREIGN					
The Dirty Half Dozen	F 39234	97	4 July	Intercontinental Film Distributors Ltd	Crown International Pictures, Los Angeles
Emmanuelle In Tokyo	F 39235	90	4 July	Intercontinental Film Distributors Ltd	Southern Co Ltd, Hong Kong
Crocket Doodle Do	F 39236	7	5 July	Columbia-Warner Distributors Ltd	Warner Bros Cartoon, California
Dangerous Game	F 39239	22	6 July	United Artists Corporation Ltd	Modern Films Ltd, Iver Heath
Garm Hava (Hot Winds)	F 39242	135	8 July	Contemporary Films Ltd	Film Finance Corporation Ltd, Bombay

AMENDMENTS TO THE REGISTER

The title of the film 'She Should Have Stayed In Bed', EC 36759/8/4/78, amended from 'I Am Frigid . . . Why?' on 6 April 1973, has been amended to 'Sex Mad' and the name of the renter to Watchgrove Ltd.

The title of the film 'The Hand Of Fate', BR/E 38180/12/7/80, registered on 8 July 1975, has been amended to 'Crime Casebook'.

CORRECTIONS TO THE REGISTER

The registration number of the film 'Sinbad And The Eye Of The Tiger', registered on 23 June 1977, has been corrected to BR/E 39216/26/6/82.

The registration number of the film 'The Speed Sailors', registered on 24 May 1977, has been corrected to BR/E 39161/29/5/82 and the name of the maker to Viscom Production Ltd.

Index to statistics published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

(a) annually (m) monthly (q) quarterly

Air transport: trade by air (a) 1 Jul 77
Balance of payments
current account (m) 24 Jun 77
trends in invisibles 29 Apr 77
see also Overseas trade of the UK
Business names and limited partnerships (a) 18 Feb 77
Capital expenditure: manufacturing, distributive and service industries (q) 8 Jul 77
by regions 18 Feb 77
Catering trades turnover (q) 20 May 77
Census of production (a) 28 Jan 77
Chemicals industry activity (q) 1 Jul 77
Companies
acquisitions and mergers (q) 13 May 77
insolvencies 6 May 77
liquidity (q) 10 Jun 77
new registrations:
Gt. Britain (m) 24 Jun 77
N. Ireland (q) 24 Jun 77
rate of return on capital (a) 8 Oct 76
structure of company financing 4 Feb 77
Construction work overseas (a) 15 Oct 76
EEC economic indicators *see* Foreign trade
Energy trends (m) This week
Engineering industries: sales and orders (m) 24 Jun 77
Film industry
British Film Fund Agency returns (m) 8 Jul 77
cinema admissions and takings (m) 24 Jun 77
exhibitors quota returns (a) 6 May 77
overseas payments and earnings (a) 20 Aug 76
registrations of films (a) 4 Feb 77
Food
consumption levels (6m) 25 Mar 77
household consumption (q) 1 Jul 77
Footwear industry: production, orders and deliveries (m) 24 Jun 77
Foreign exchange: official reserves (m) 8 Jul 77
Foreign trade: industrial countries' economic indicators (m) 1 Jul 77
quarterly analysis 3 Jun 77
see also Overseas trade of the UK
Hire-purchase business (m) 8 Jul 77
Industrial production
index numbers (m) 8 Jul 77
Scotland (q) 17 Jun 77
Wales (q) 27 May 77
Insurance companies: investments and assets (a) 20 Aug 76
Investment
book values of overseas direct investments (every 3 years) 25 Feb 77
industry's investment intentions (3 times a year) 10 Jun 77
investment and earnings overseas (a) 25 Jun 76
Made-up clothing: orders and deliveries (m) 1 Jul 77
Man-made fibres
deliveries (q) 10 Jun 77
production (m) This week
production: quarterly analysis (q) 10 Jun 77
Metal-working machine tools (m) 1 Jul 77
Motor industry
car and commercial vehicle production (m) 1 Jul 77
estimated figures (m) This week
motor trade turnover (q) 27 May 77
Office development permits (q) 27 May 77
Overseas trade of the UK
direct exporters and credit terms (a) 16 Jul 76
analysis of trends (q) 3 Jun 77
backrun (a) 11 Mar 77
export prospects (q) 17 June 77
invoicing in foreign currencies 22 Apr 77
see also Balance of payments
Pension funds: investments and assets (a) 20 Aug 76
Regional development grants (q) 13 May 77
Research and development expenditure 24 Jun 77 and 1 Jul 77
Retail prices index (m) 24 June 77
Retail trades
sales (m) 8 Jul 77
provisional figures (m) 17 Jun 77
sales, N. Ireland (m) 25 Feb 77
stocks (m) This week
Royalties: overseas transactions (a) 25 Jun 76
Selective assistance
section 7 (m) 10 Jun 77
section 7 £10,000 or more (q) This week
section 8 (q) 24 Jun 77
Shipping: nationality of vessels in UK sea-borne trade (a) 9 Jul 76
Steel: consumption and stocks (q) 1 Apr 77
Stocks
manufacturers' and distributors' (q) 8 Jul 77
manufacturers' (m) 3 Jun 77
retail (m) This week
Television: overseas payments and earnings (a) 20 Aug 76
Textiles
activity in the industry (q) 1 Jul 77
carpet sales (m) 8 Jul 77
cotton industry production (m) 17 Jun 77
hosiery production (m) 10 Jun 77
wholesale houses' sales and stocks (m) This week
wool exports (q) 17 Jun 77
wool output (m) 17 Jun 77
Tourism
foreign visitor arrivals (m) 8 Apr 77
overseas travel and tourism (q) 29 Apr 77
Wholesale prices
average prices of selected commodities (a) 13 May 77
index numbers (m) 24 Jun 77
initial summary This week

Organisational information

Commercial representation guide 8 Apr 77
Customs notices of interest to exporters 1 Oct 76
ECGD local offices 10 Dec 76
ECGD lines of credit 1 Apr 77
Government statistics guide This week
Guide to departments 15 Apr 77
Release dates of economic statistics 1 Jul 77
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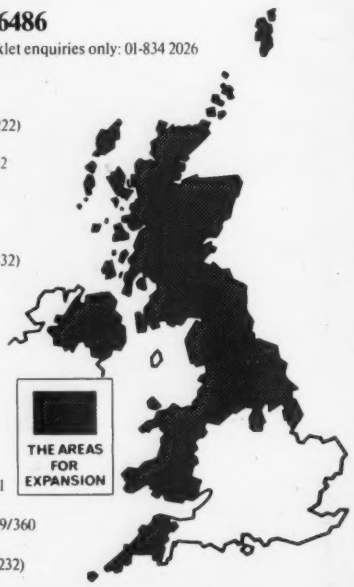

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